PRESENTED BY KAZUO KOIKE & KAZUO KAMIMURA

LADY SNOWBLOOD

VOL. 2

修羅雪姫

LADY SNOWBLOOD

THE DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE PT. 2 STORY BY KAZUO KOIKE ART BY KAZUO KAMIMURA

LADY SNOW BLOOD

修羅雪姫

VOLUME TWO: THE DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE PT. 2

BY KAZUO KOIKE AND KAZUO KAMIMURA

COVER ILLUSTRATION BY KAZUO KAMIMURA ORIGINAL COVER DESIGN BY G HIGH LLC.

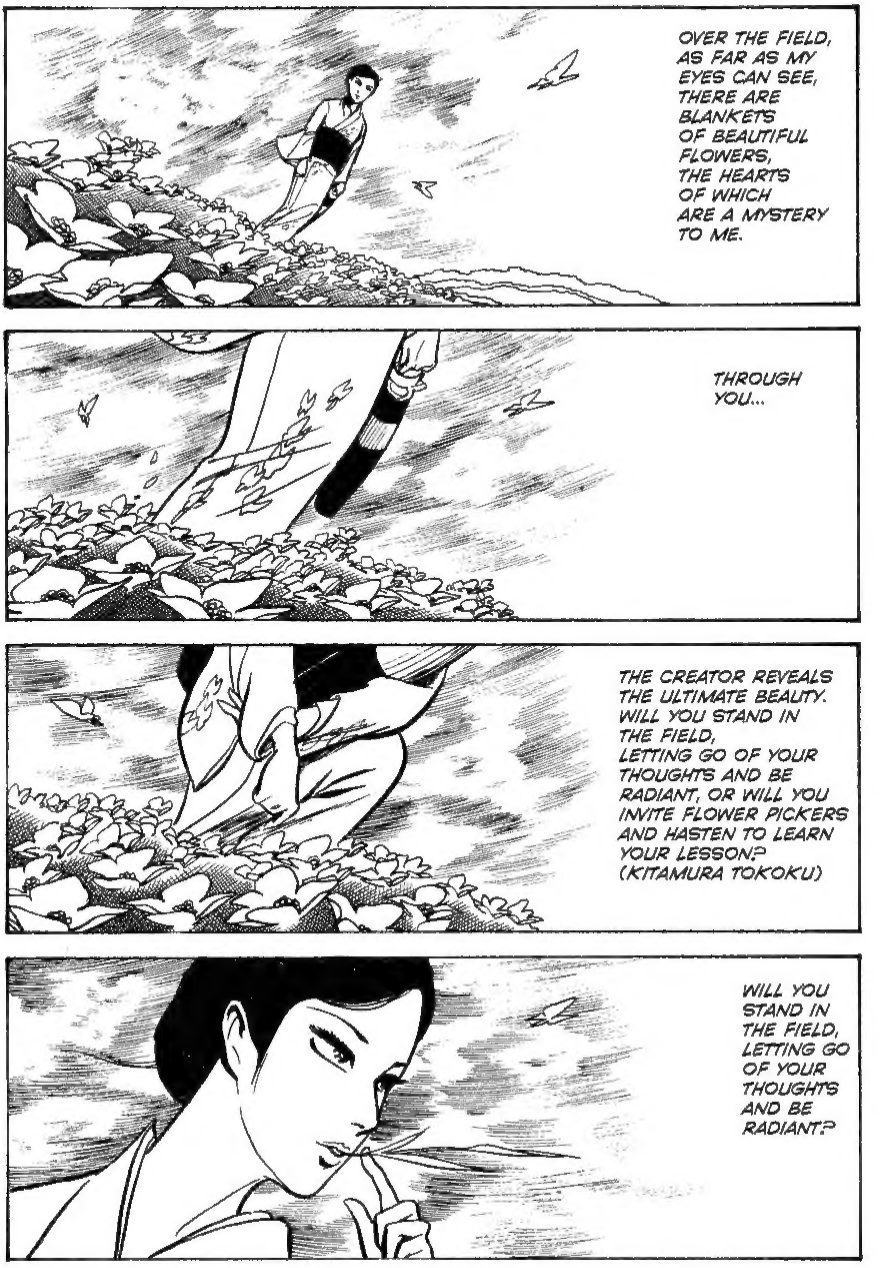
TABLE OF CONTENTS

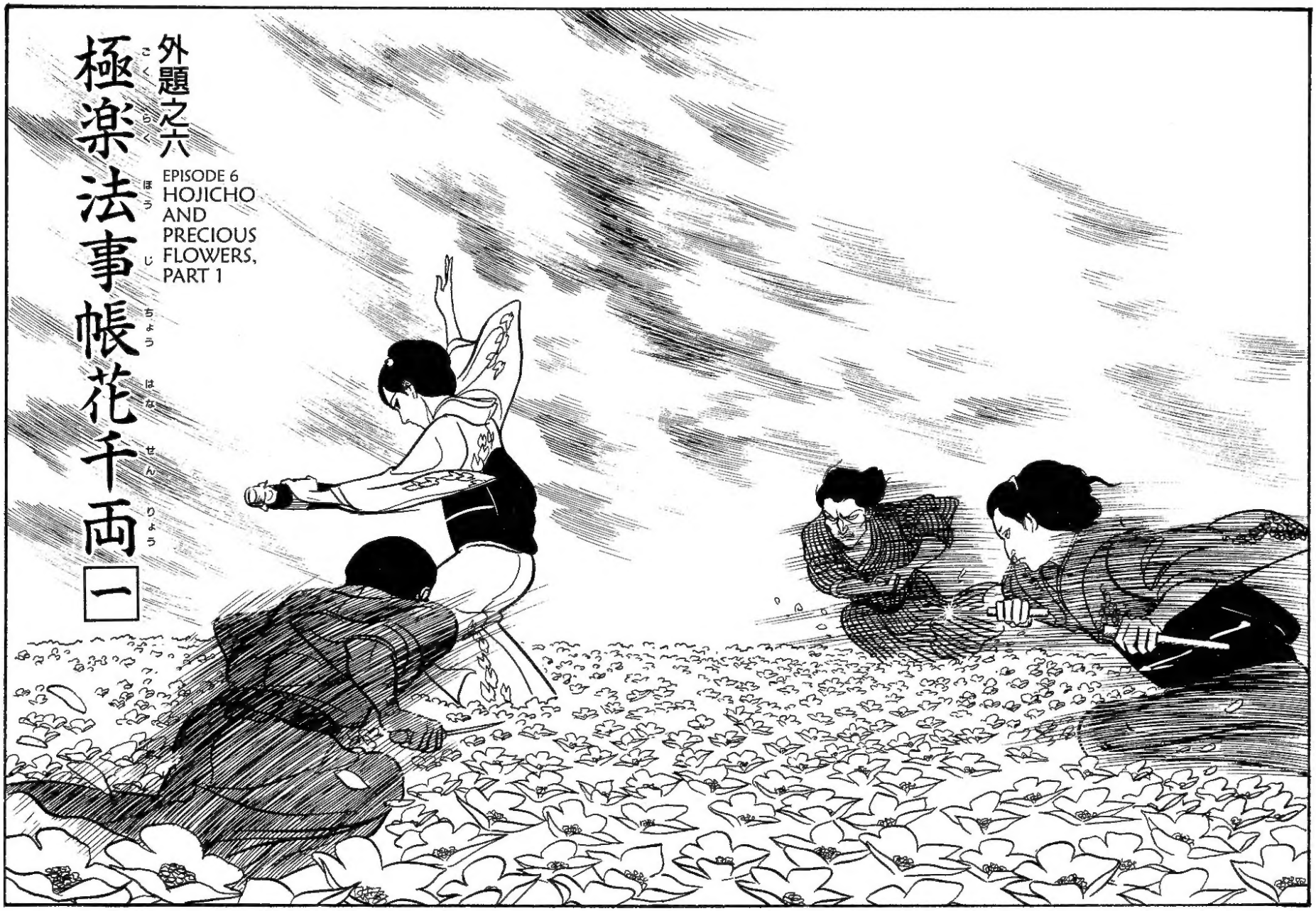
3 EPISODE 6:
HOJICHO AND PRECIOUS FLOWERS

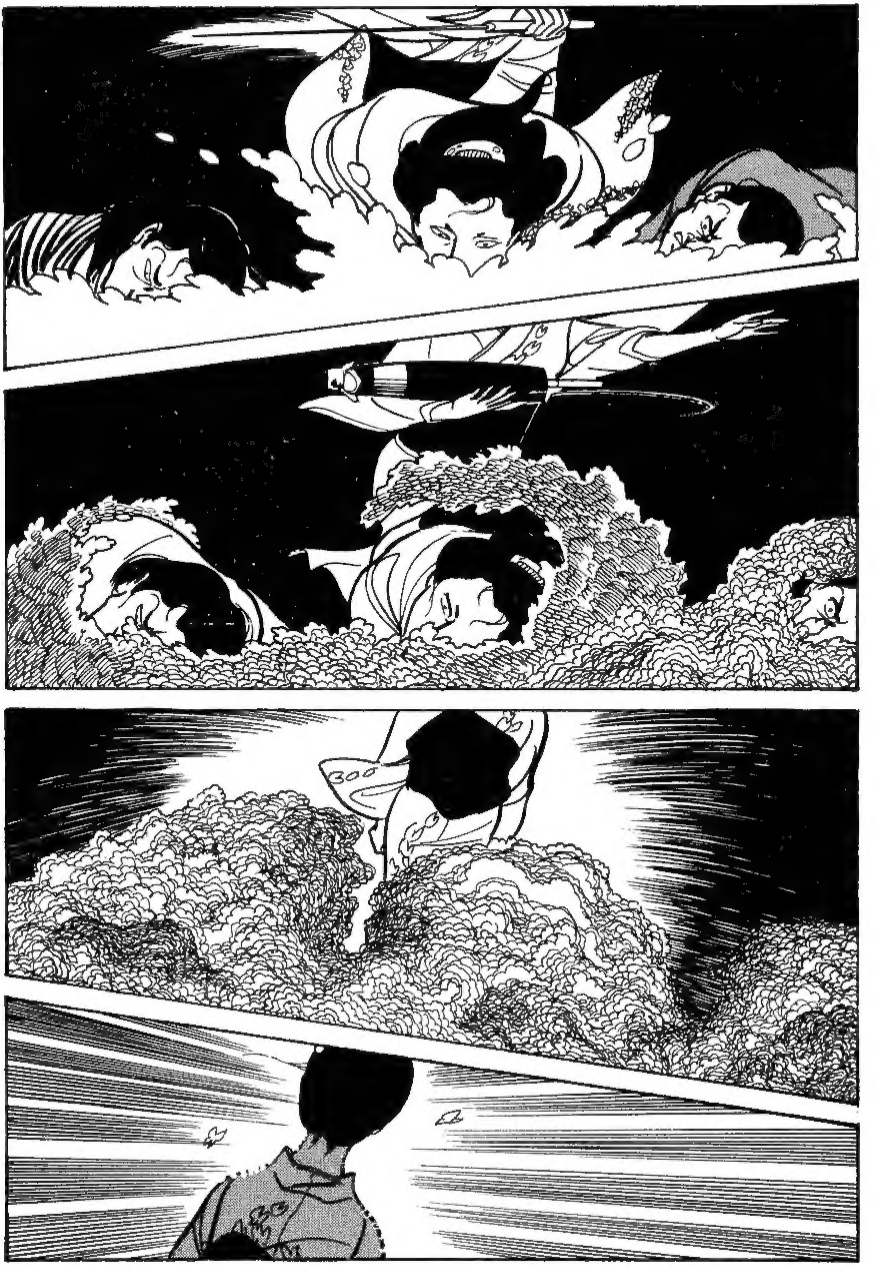
83 EPISODE 7:
STYLISH WOMAN AND UMBRELLA OVER RAIN OF BLOOD

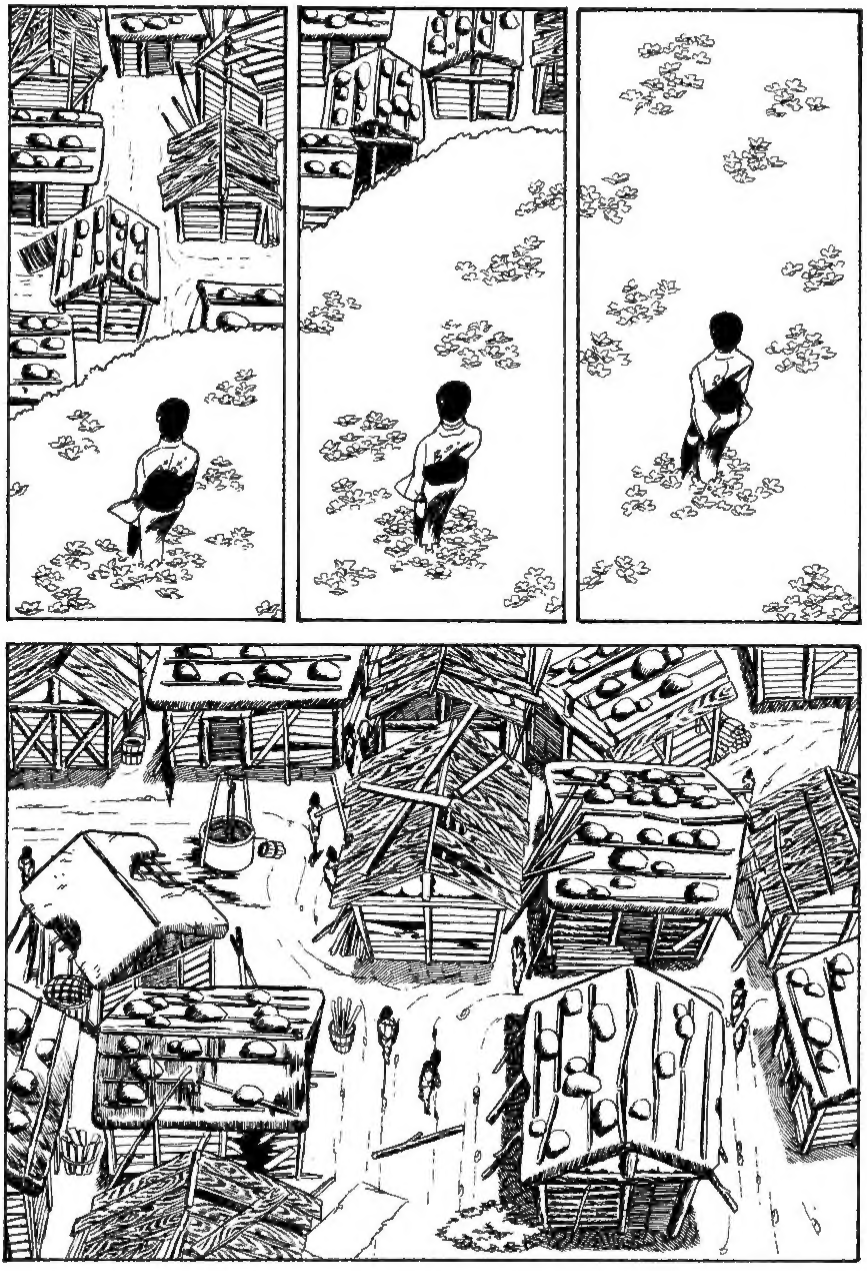
123 EPISODE 8:
PAWNSHOP OF LIFE AND MERCILESS DISPOSAL

163 EPISODE 9:
BLACKMAILER GENJIRO AND THE SONG OF THE PHANTOM, PART 1

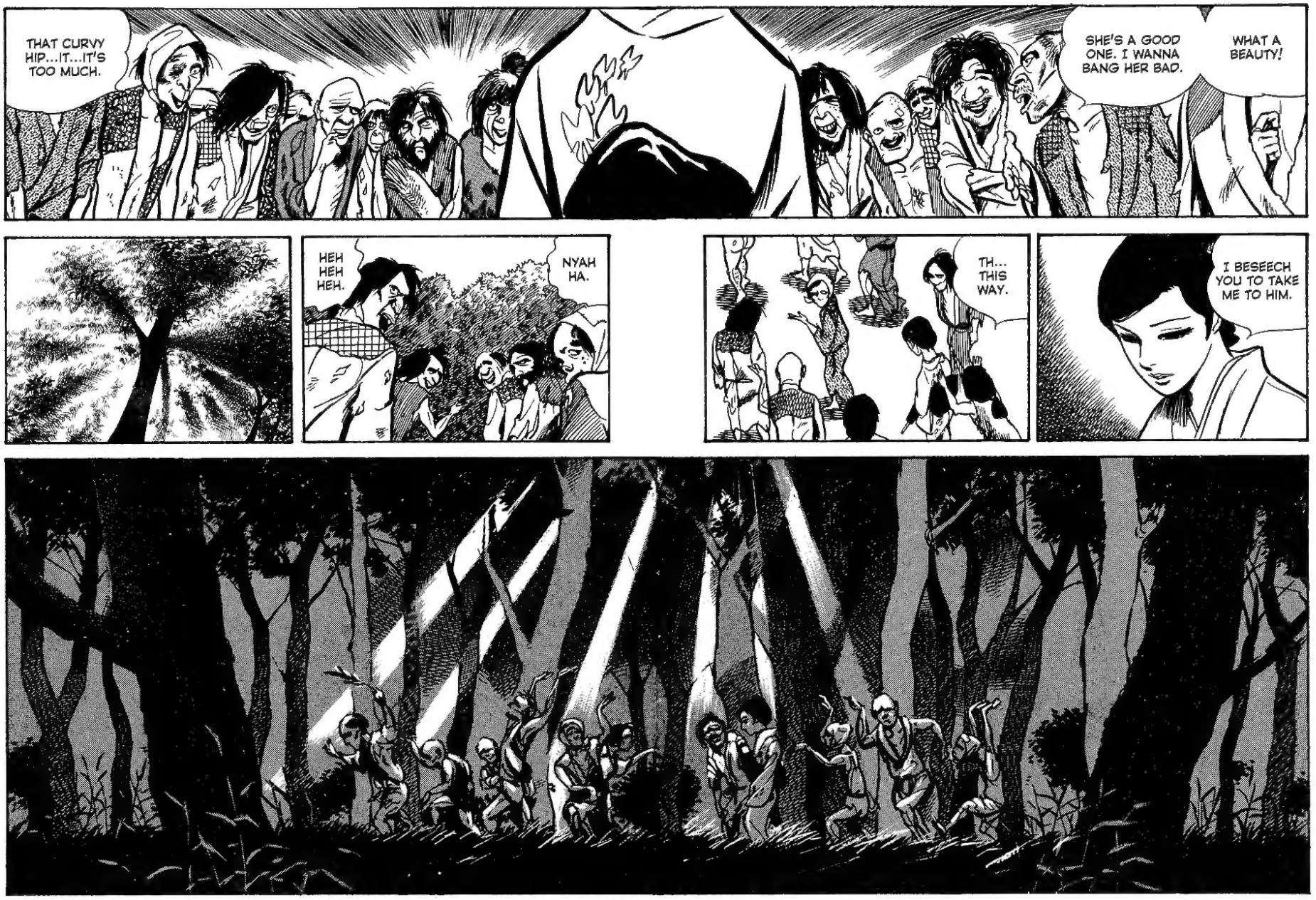

OVER THE FIELD, AS FAR AS MY EYES CAN SEE, THERE ARE BLANKETS OF BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS, THE HEARTS OF WHICH ARE A MYSTERY TO ME.
THROUGH YOU...
THE CREATOR REVEALS THE ULTIMATE BEAUTY. WILL YOU STAND IN THE FIELD, LETTING GO OF YOUR THOUGHTS AND BE RADIANT, OR WILL YOU INVITE FLOWER PICKERS AND HASTEN TO LEARN YOUR LESSON? (KITAMURA TOKOKU)
WILL YOU STAND IN THE FIELD, LETTING GO OF YOUR THOUGHTS AND BE RADIANT?

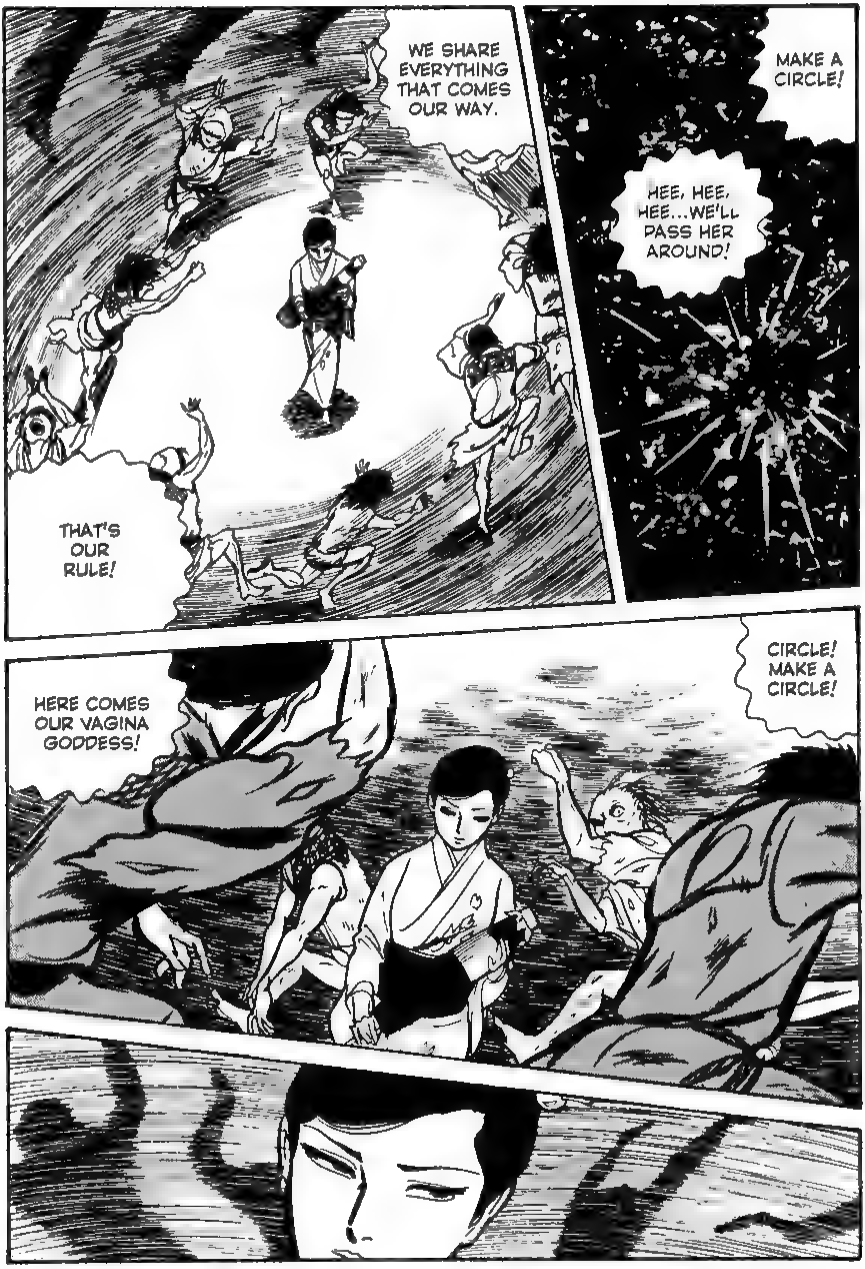

外題之六
極楽法事帳花千両
一
EPISODE 6
HOJICHO
AND
PRECIOUS
FLOWERS,
PART 1





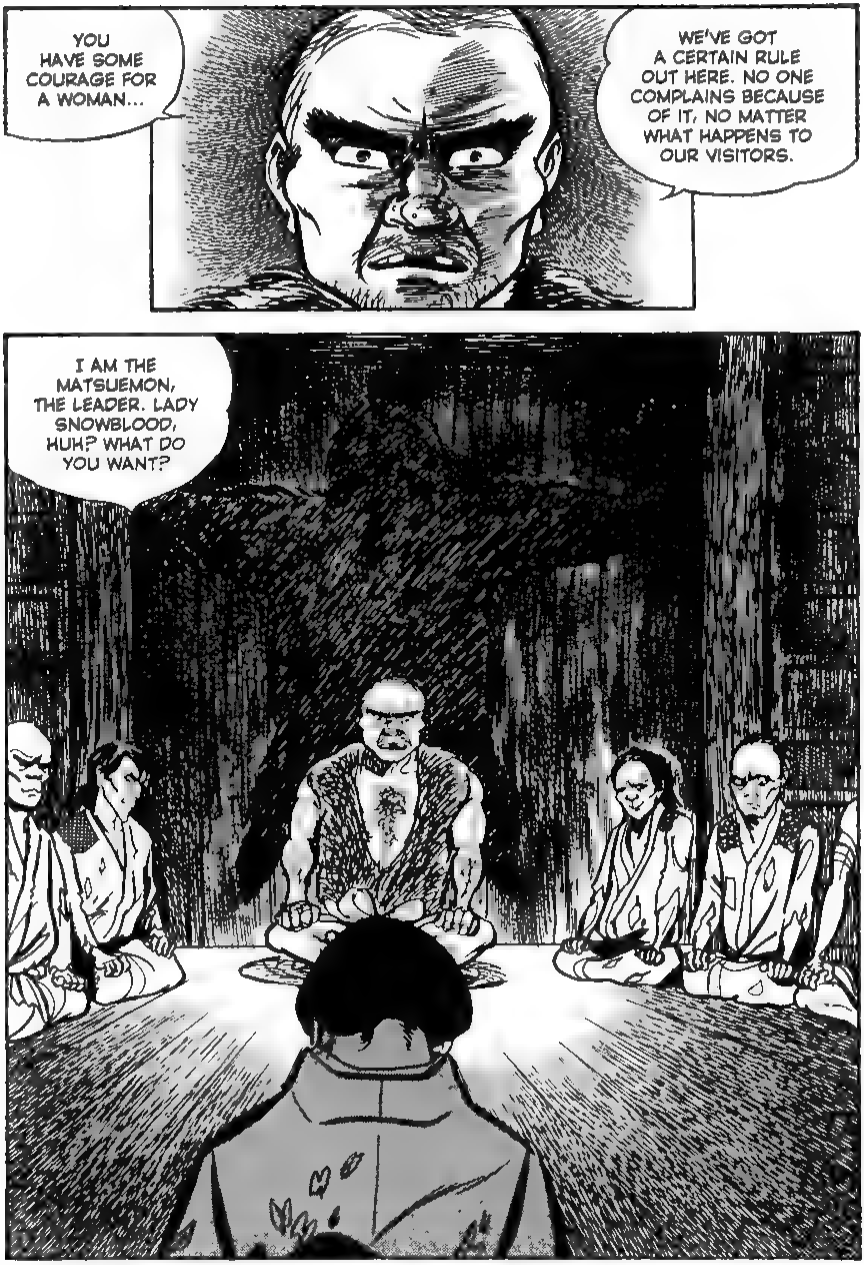
?!
MAY I PLEASE BE ALLOWED TO SEE MATSUEMON?


THAT CURVY HIP...IT...IT'S TOO MUCH.
SHE'S A GOOD ONE. I WANNA BANG HER BAD.
WHAT A BEAUTY!
HEH HEH HEH.
NYAH HA.
TH... THIS WAY.
I BESEECH YOU TO TAKE ME TO HIM.

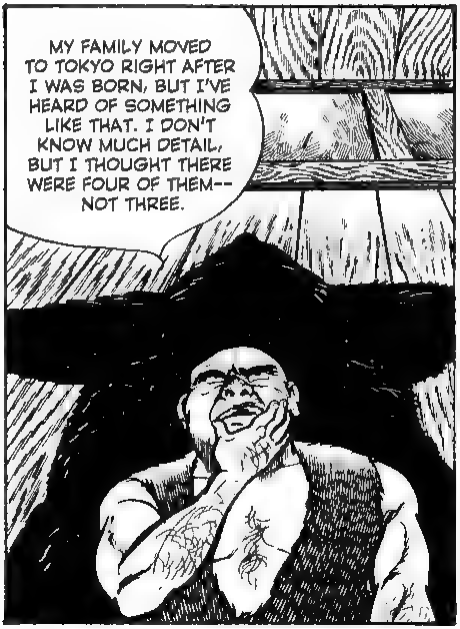

WE SHARE EVERYTHING THAT COMES OUR WAY.
THAT'S OUR RULE!
MAKE A CIRCLE!
HEE, HEE, HEE...WE'LL PASS HER AROUND!
HERE COMES OUR VAGINA GODDESS!
CIRCLE! MAKE A CIRCLE!

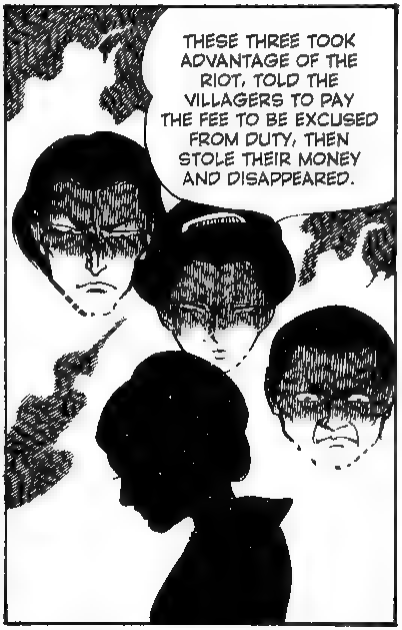
SHUU
NOW!
B-BAM
SHZZZT
COME HELP!
EVERYONE!
HOLY CRAP!
H-HOW DARE YOU!

YAAHHHH!
GET THAT BITCH!
KA!
BLAM
Y...YES, MA'AM!
AGAIN I ASK YOU. PLEASE. PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SEE MATSUEMON.
I AM LADY SNOW-BLOOD.


YOU HAVE SOME COURAGE FOR A WOMAN...
WE'VE GOT A CERTAIN RULE OUT HERE. NO ONE COMPLAINS BECAUSE OF IT, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR VISITORS.
I AM THE MATSUEMON, THE LEADER. LADY SNOWBLOOD, HUH? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

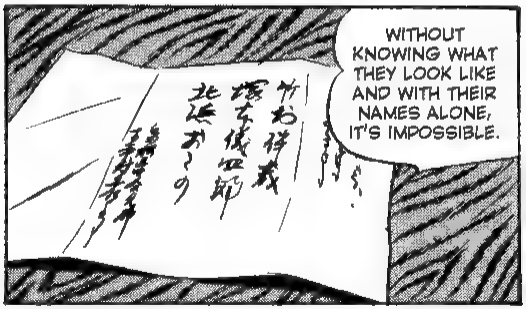
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO FIND THESE PEOPLE FOR ME.
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.
LEMME SEE...THEY'RE ALL FROM FURUICHI-MURA OF AIMI-GUN, SHIMANE PREFECTURE, HUH?
HANZO TAKEMURA, GISHIRO TSUKAMOTO, AND OKONO KITAHAMA.
I WASTED A YEAR BEFORE I LEARNED YOU WERE BORN THERE.
FURUICHI-MURA IS WHERE I WAS BORN.
DO YOU REMEMBER THE BLOOD-TAX RIOT OF 1873?
OF COURSE I DO.
HMMM. SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING SERIOUS GOING ON.


MY FAMILY MOVED TO TOKYO RIGHT AFTER I WAS BORN, BUT I'VE HEARD OF SOMETHING LIKE THAT. I DON'T KNOW MUCH DETAIL, BUT I THOUGHT THERE WERE FOUR OF THEM-- NOT THREE.


THESE THREE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE RIOT, TOLD THE VILLAGERS TO PAY THE FEE TO BE EXCUSED FROM DUTY, THEN STOLE THEIR MONEY AND DISAPPEARED.

MMMM. SO, THESE ARE THE REMAINING THREE THEN.

YES. ONE OF THEM, TOKUICHI SHOEI, IS ALREADY DEAD.


WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE AND WITH THEIR NAMES ALONE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

PLEASE, I BEG YOU. WILL YOU FIND THEM FOR ME?

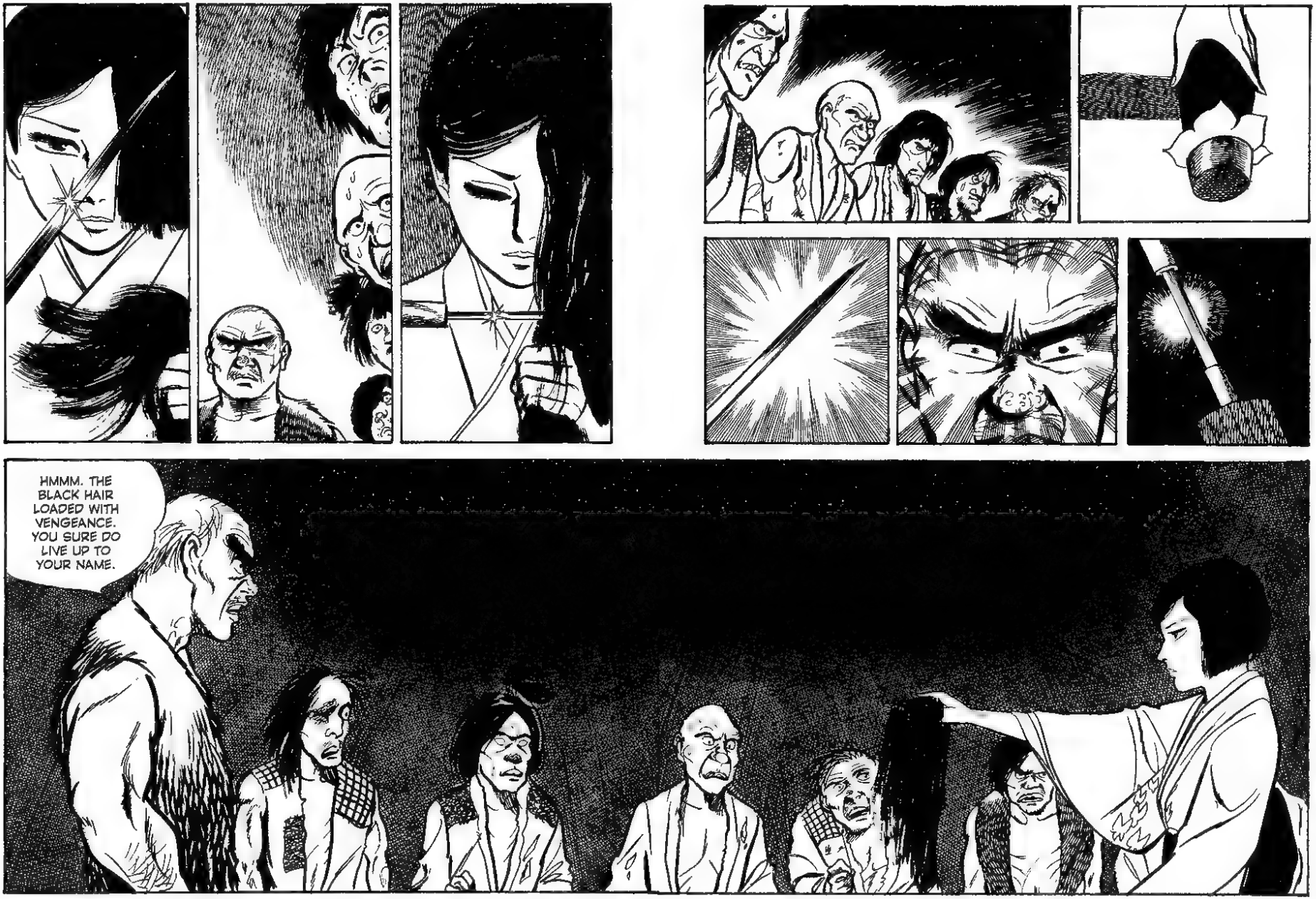
I DISAGREE. I'M SURE THERE ARE MANY WHO STILL REMEMBER THEM. IF YOU FOLLOW EVERY CLUE AND USE THE POWER OF YOUR HUGE ORGANIZATION, I'M SURE YOU WILL FIND THEM.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN'T. BUT WE WON'T LIFT A FINGER FOR NOTHING. WHAT'S YOUR BARGAIN?
THIS.
WE DON'T WANT ANY MONEY! DID YOU THINK WE'D TAKE THAT?
WHAT FOLLY!

NOW YOU'RE ASKING US TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU FOR MONEY. IF WE TAKE IT AND WORK FOR YOU, WE WILL NO LONGER BE WHO WE ARE!
BECAUSE THAT'S HOW WE LIVE.
EVEN AFTER WE RECEIVE CHARITY, WE DON'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. WE DON'T GIVE BACK WHAT WE GET. WE SIMPLY TAKE ALMS. THAT'S ALL.
OUR LIVES DEPEND ON THE COMPASSIONATE ALMS OF OTHERS. WE RECEIVE MONEY WITHOUT GIVING ANYTHING IN RETURN.

YOU GIVE US YOUR HEART.

THEN WHAT CAN I--

...
...
...
...

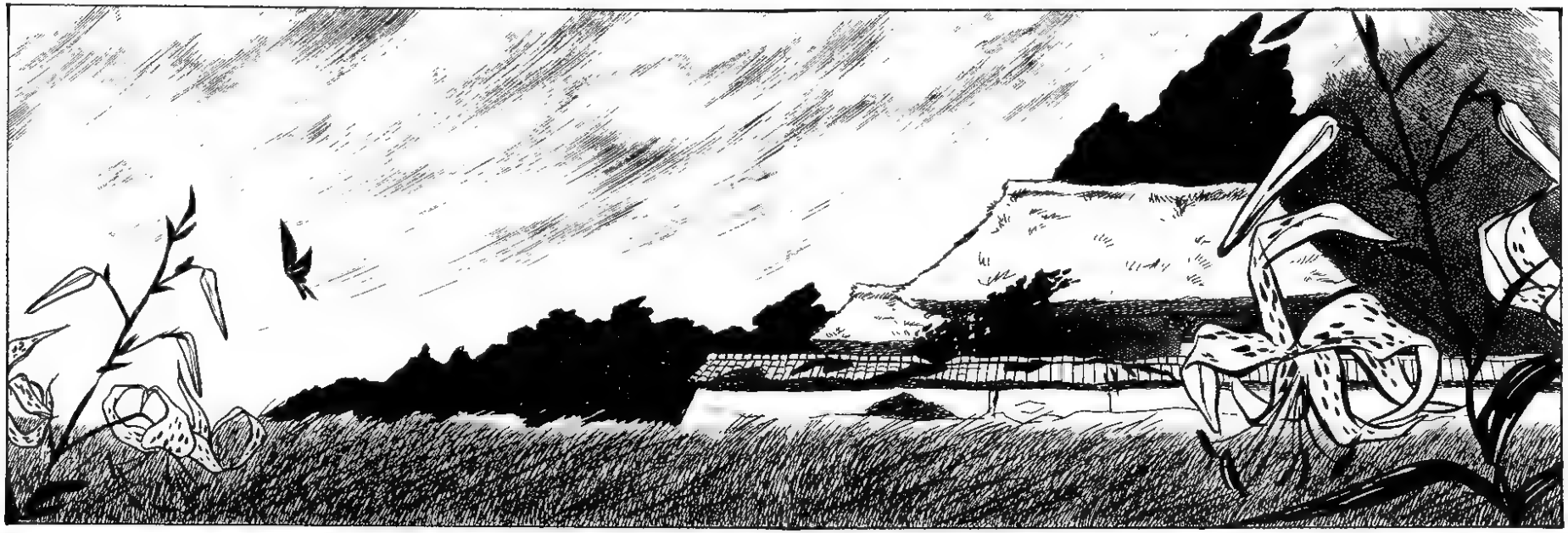

HMMM. THE BLACK HAIR LOADED WITH VENGEANCE. YOU SURE DO LIVE UP TO YOUR NAME.

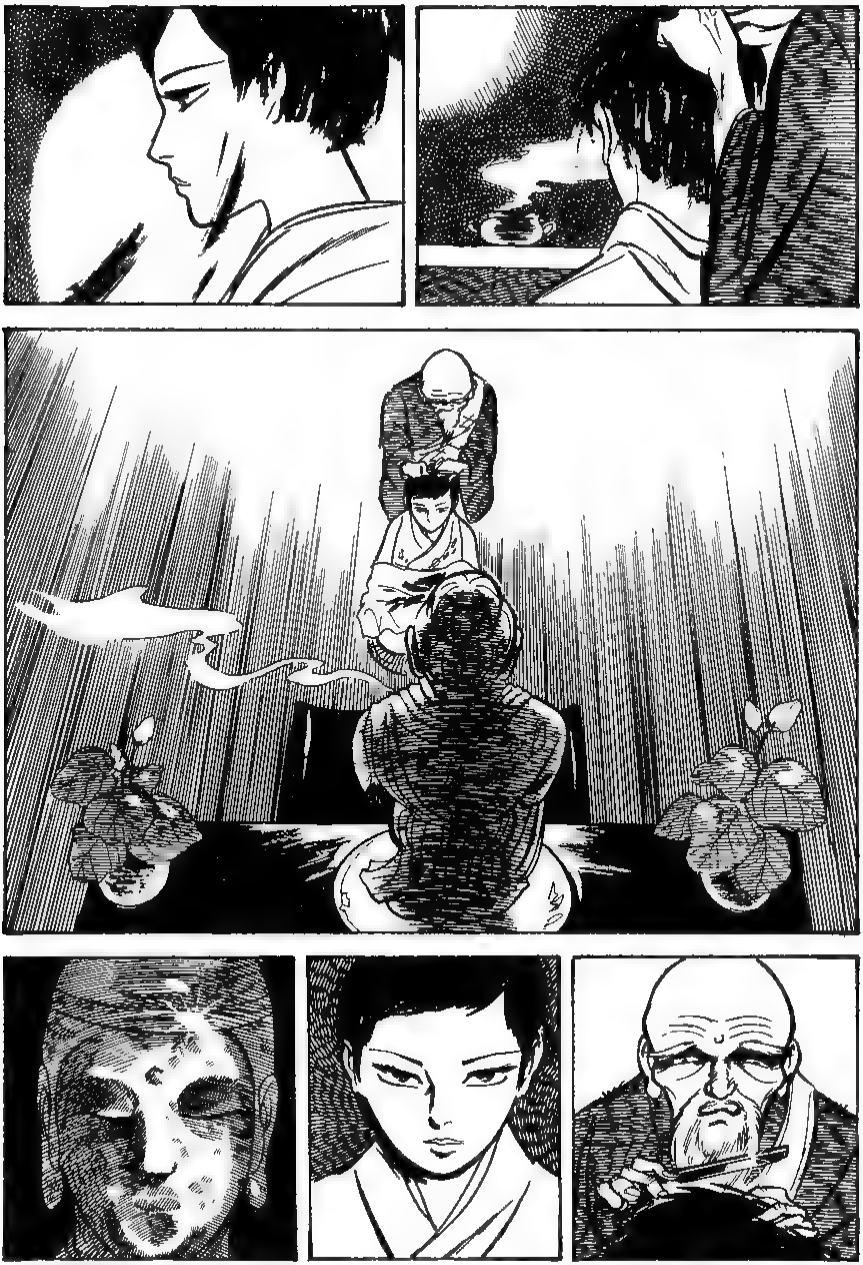
THANK YOU.
WE'LL FIND THEM FOR YOU.
HOJICHO?!
IN EXCHANGE, I WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOR TOO. I WANT YOU TO GET US A HOJICHO.
THAT'S RIGHT. WE WANT A HOJICHO.

外題之六

極楽法事帳花千両 二

EPISODE 6
HOJICHO AND PRECIOUS FLOWERS, PART 2





A SO-CALLED HOJICHO SHOWS ..
...WHO DIED OF WHICH FAMILY ON WHAT DAY IN ACCURATE DETAIL. IT IS A BOOK OF RECORDS KEPT FOR THE PARISHIONERS.

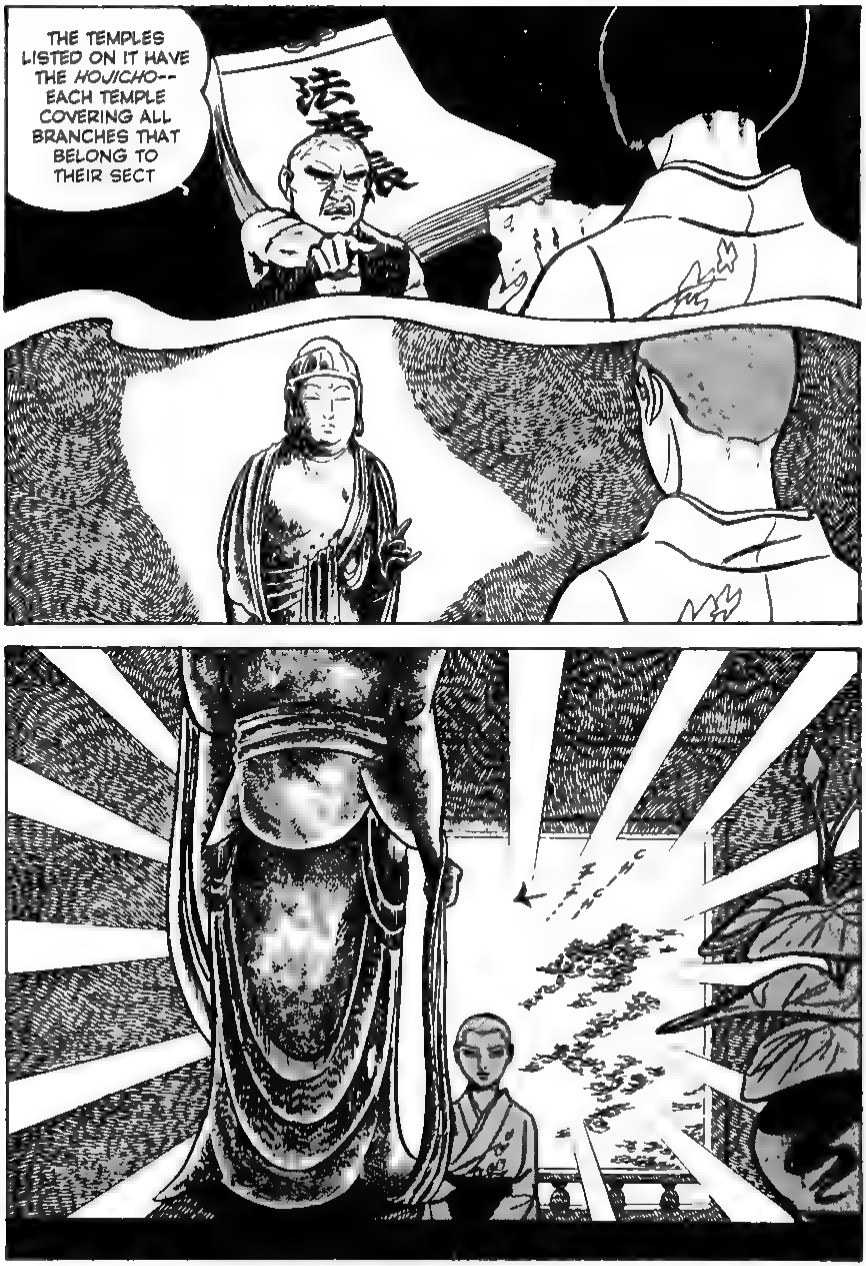
WE USE THAT *HOJICHO* AS A POINT OF REFERENCE WHEN WE GO OUT THERE TO COLLECT ALMS
WH-WHAT THE...! THIS ISN'T A PLACE FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO COME!
PARDON ME FOR INTRUDING.
WHAT NERVE! GET OUT!

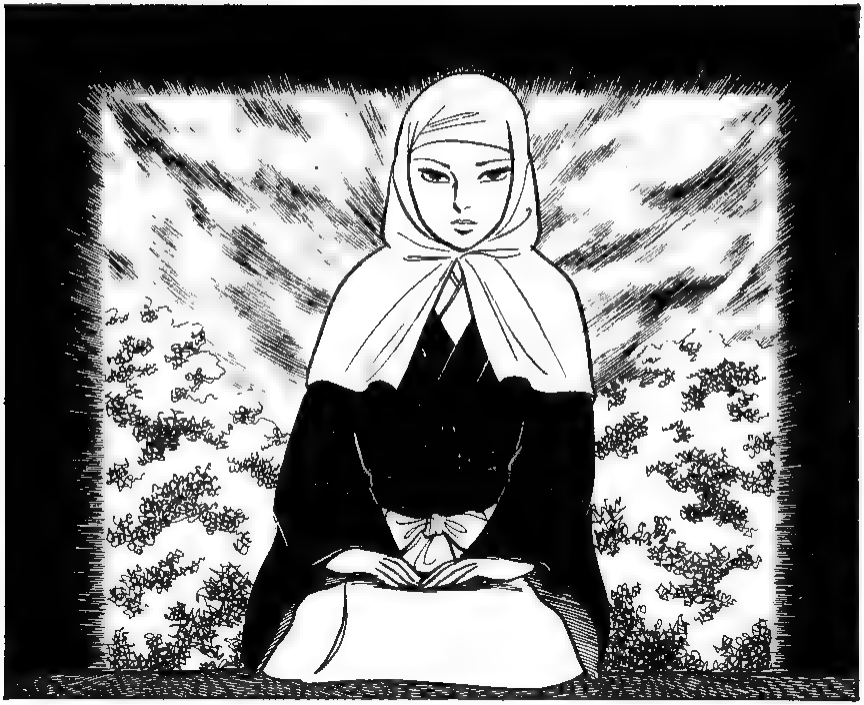
WHILE HE WAS ALIVE, HE DID MANY VIRTUOUS AND HONORABLE DEEDS. WE FELT WE SHOULD LIGHT AN INCENSE IN HIS MEMORY... IF I MAY DO SO.
I'VE COME BY TODAY BECAUSE IT'S THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY SINCE THE PREVIOUS MASTER, ROKUZAEMON, PASSED AWAY.
なんまいだ?
NANMAIDAAH,
なんまいだ?
NANMAIDAAH
LAST NIGHT ALL OF US WENT OUT AND CLEANED UP AROUND HIS TOMBSTONE.
?!
THOMP
IS THAT RIGHT? THAT'S WHY YOU'VE COME...FOR OUR PREVIOUS MASTER...

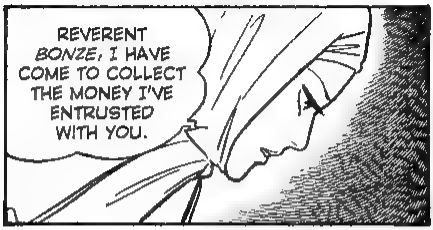
TODAY IS THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY SINCE THEIR PREVIOUS MASTER, SONSAKU, PASSED AWAY.
THE NEXT ONE IS HARADAYA OF SHICHIKEN-CHO.
...THAT'S HOW IT WORKS.
IF WE HAVE A *HOJICHO*, WE CAN CONTINUE COLLECTING ALMS YEAR AFTER YEAR WITHOUT A HITCH. FOR US, A *HOJICHO* IS AN INCREDIBLY PRECIOUS ITEM, ONE OF WHICH CAN EASILY FETCH ONE THOUSAND *RYO*.
THE PROBLEM IS, AFTER THE RESTORATION, THE CAPITAL MOVED TO TOKYO. WITH THAT, THE *SAMURAI* DISAPPEARED AND EVERYTHING GOT SCRAMBLED UP. WITH A HODGE-PODGE OF PEOPLE COMING IN AND OUT, OUR *HOJICHO* BECAME USELESS.
...
...

THE ECONOMY IS BAD AND WE CAN'T LIVE OFF THE SMALL ALMS WE COLLECT NOWADAYS...ALL WE CAN COUNT ON IS A *HOJICHO*.
THAT'S WHY WE WANT A NEW ONE. IF YOU COULD GET ONE FOR US, WE'LL PULL EVERY STRING WE'VE GOT TO FIND HANZO TAKEMURA, GISHIRO TSUKAMOTO, AND OKONO KITAHAMA.
BUT NO *HOJICHO* IS EVER ALLOWED OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE. WITHOUT HELP FROM A WOMAN LIKE YOU, WE COULD NEVER GET OUR HANDS ON IT.

GOKOKUSAN TENNOJI TEMPLE, TENDAI SECT TENNOJI-CHO, SHIMOYA YANAKA
YOTSUYASAN CHOSENJ TEMPLE, SOTO SECT YOTSUYAKAN-CHO
IKOZAN HOMYOJI TEMPLE, NICHIREN SECT ZOSHIGAYA-CHO, KOISHIKAWA
AZABUZAN ZENPUKUJI TEMPLE, SHINSHU HOGANJI SECT
SANROKUZAN ZOJOJI TEMPLE, JODO SECT SHIBA--

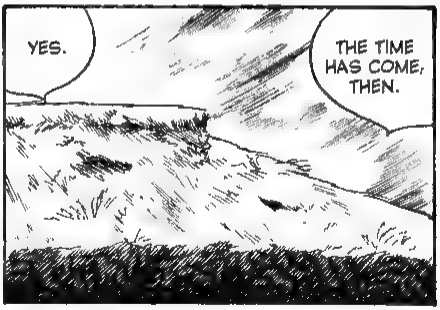

THE TEMPLES LISTED ON IT HAVE THE HOJICHO-- EACH TEMPLE COVERING ALL BRANCHES THAT BELONG TO THEIR SECT
法華宗
KING

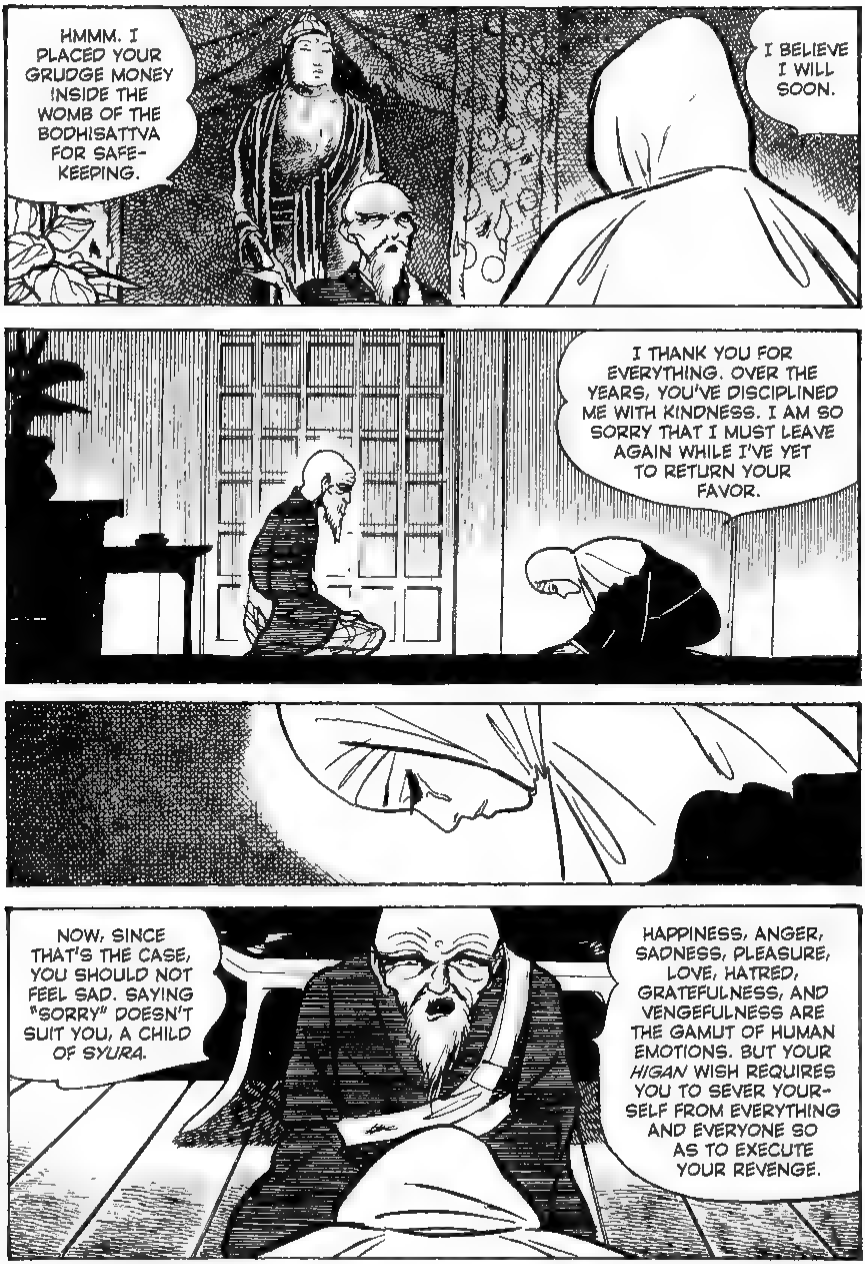



REVERENT BONZE, I HAVE COME TO COLLECT THE MONEY I'VE ENTRUSTED WITH YOU.

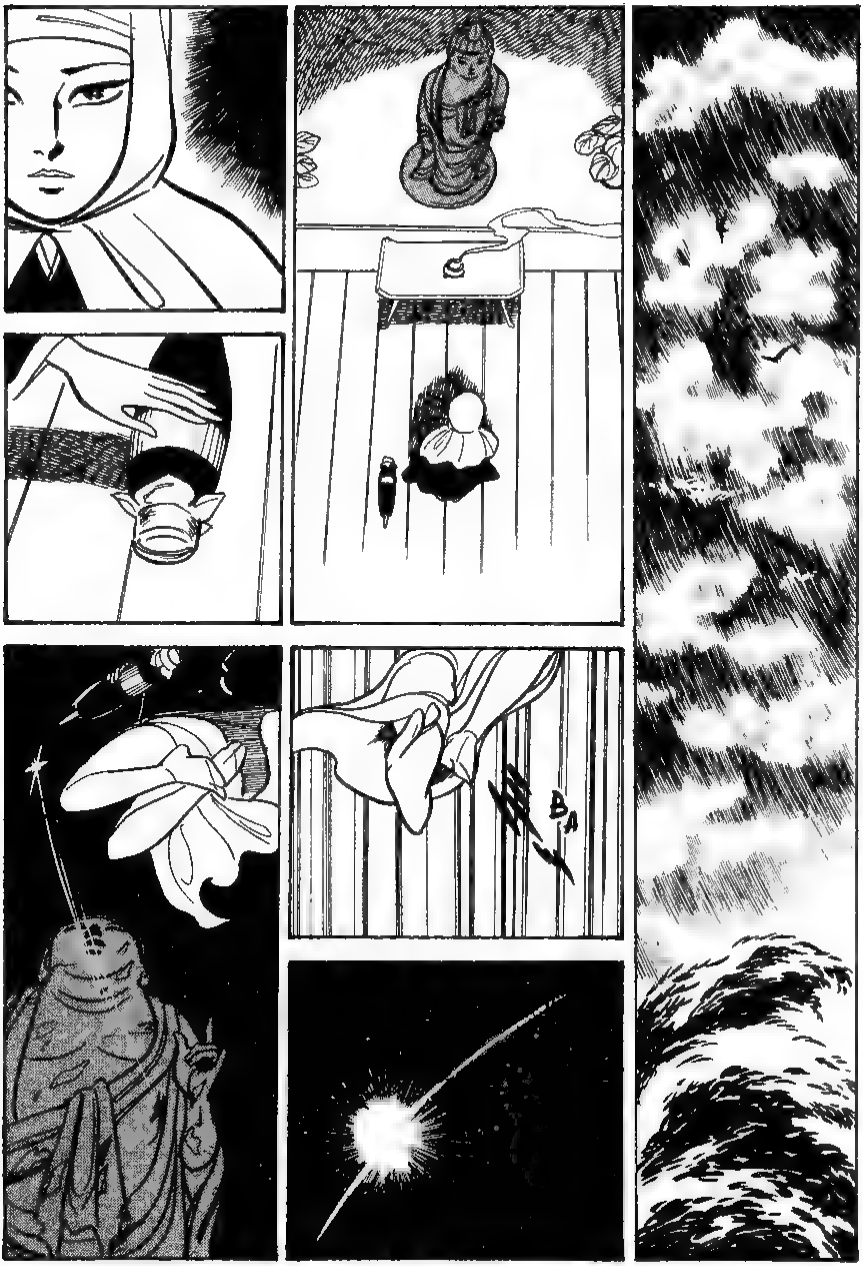
HMM...

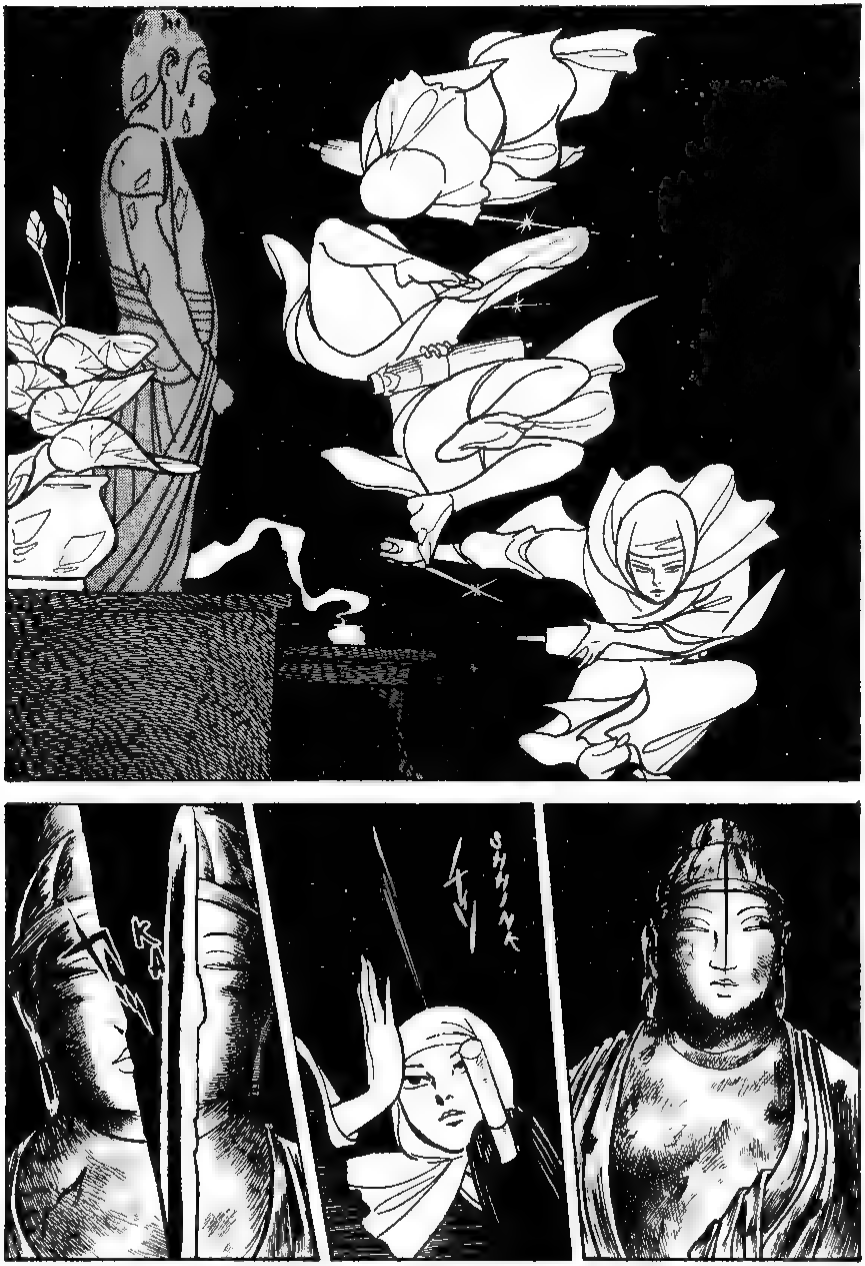
SO, YOU KNOW THEIR ADDRESSES NOW?

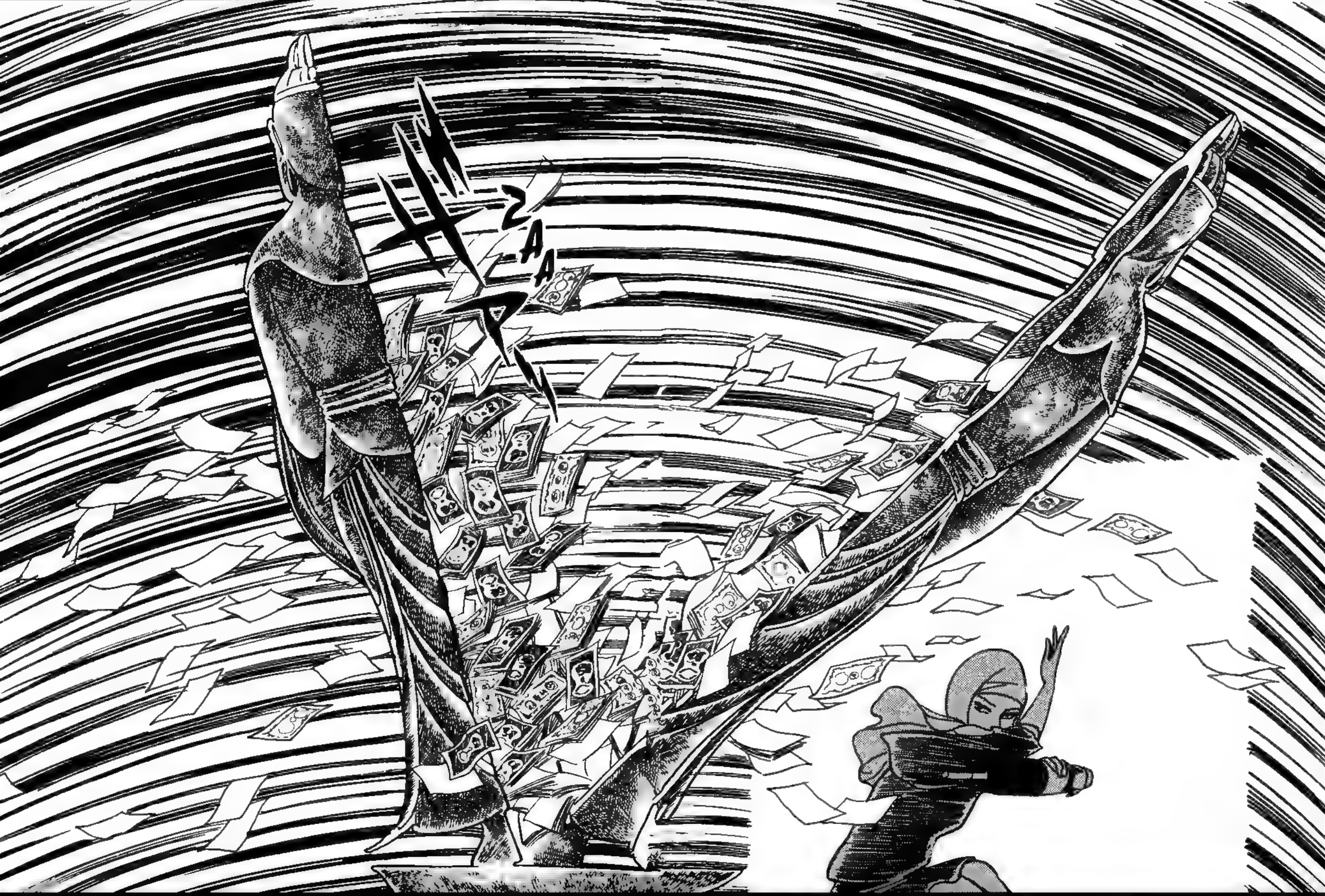

YES.
THE TIME HAS COME, THEN.


HMMM. I PLACED YOUR GRUDGE MONEY INSIDE THE WOMB OF THE BODHISATTVA FOR SAFE-KEEPING.
I BELIEVE I WILL SOON.
I THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING. OVER THE YEARS, YOU'VE DISCIPLINED ME WITH KINDNESS. I AM SO SORRY THAT I MUST LEAVE AGAIN WHILE I'VE YET TO RETURN YOUR FAVOR.
NOW, SINCE THAT'S THE CASE, YOU SHOULD NOT FEEL SAD. SAYING "SORRY" DOESN'T SUIT YOU, A CHILD OF *SYURA*.
HAPPINESS, ANGER, SADNESS, PLEASURE, LOVE, HATRED, GRATEFULNESS, AND VENGEFULNESS ARE THE GAMUT OF HUMAN EMOTIONS. BUT YOUR *HIGAN* WISH REQUIRES YOU TO SEVER YOURSELF FROM EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE SO AS TO EXECUTE YOUR REVENGE.

EVEN THE BUDDHA HAS GIVEN UP ON YOU.
YES...
...
...
YOU ARE NOT A WOMAN OF THE SECULAR WORLD. YOU ARE A DEVIL WHO THRIVES ON THE PATH OF *SYURA*. YOU ARE A GOBLIN THAT ASSUMES HUMAN APPEARANCE!
LEAVE AFTER YOU VISIT THE GRAVES OF YOUR MOTHER AND OTORA




KA
シャシャシャ

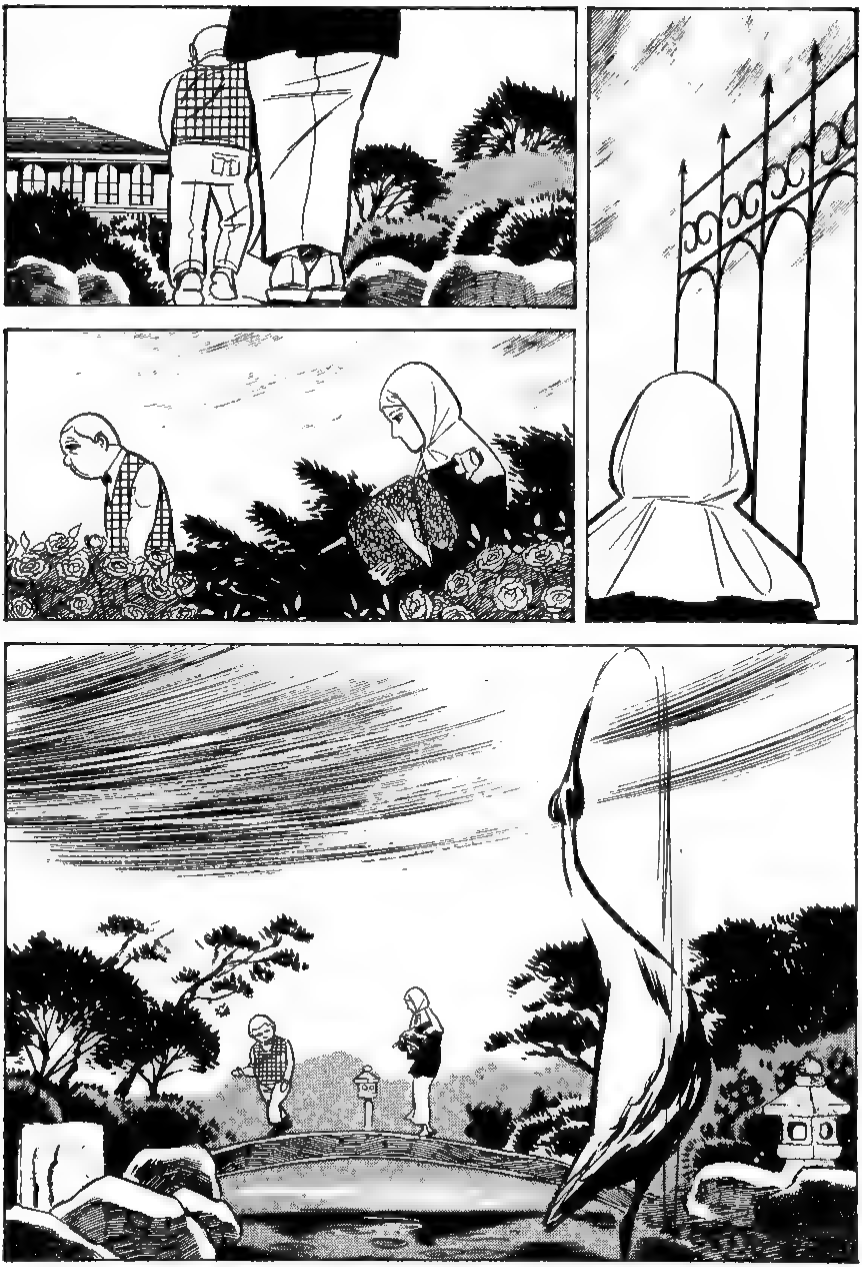

HAAA

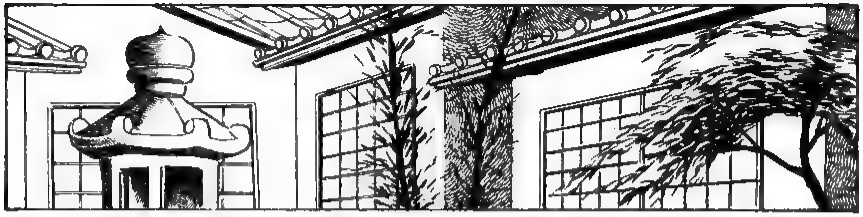
I AM ON MY WAY TO SEIZE A *HOJICHO*.
ONCE I DO, I'M SURE THEY'LL RETURN MY FAVOR AND FIND OUR ENEMIES.
...I MADE IT THIS FAR... MOTHER.
AT LAST...
OTORA... I CANNOT WAIT... TO JOIN YOU.

外題之六

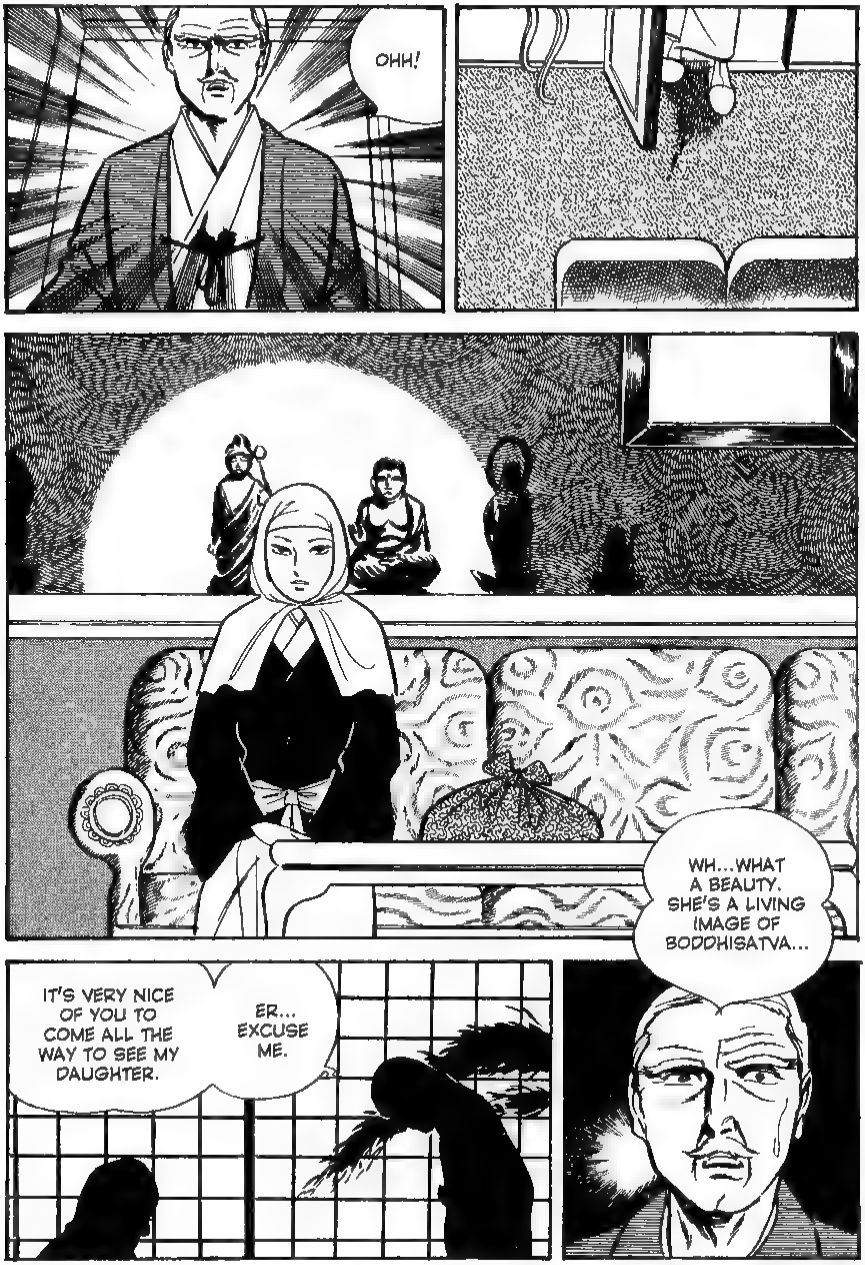
極楽法事帳花千両 三

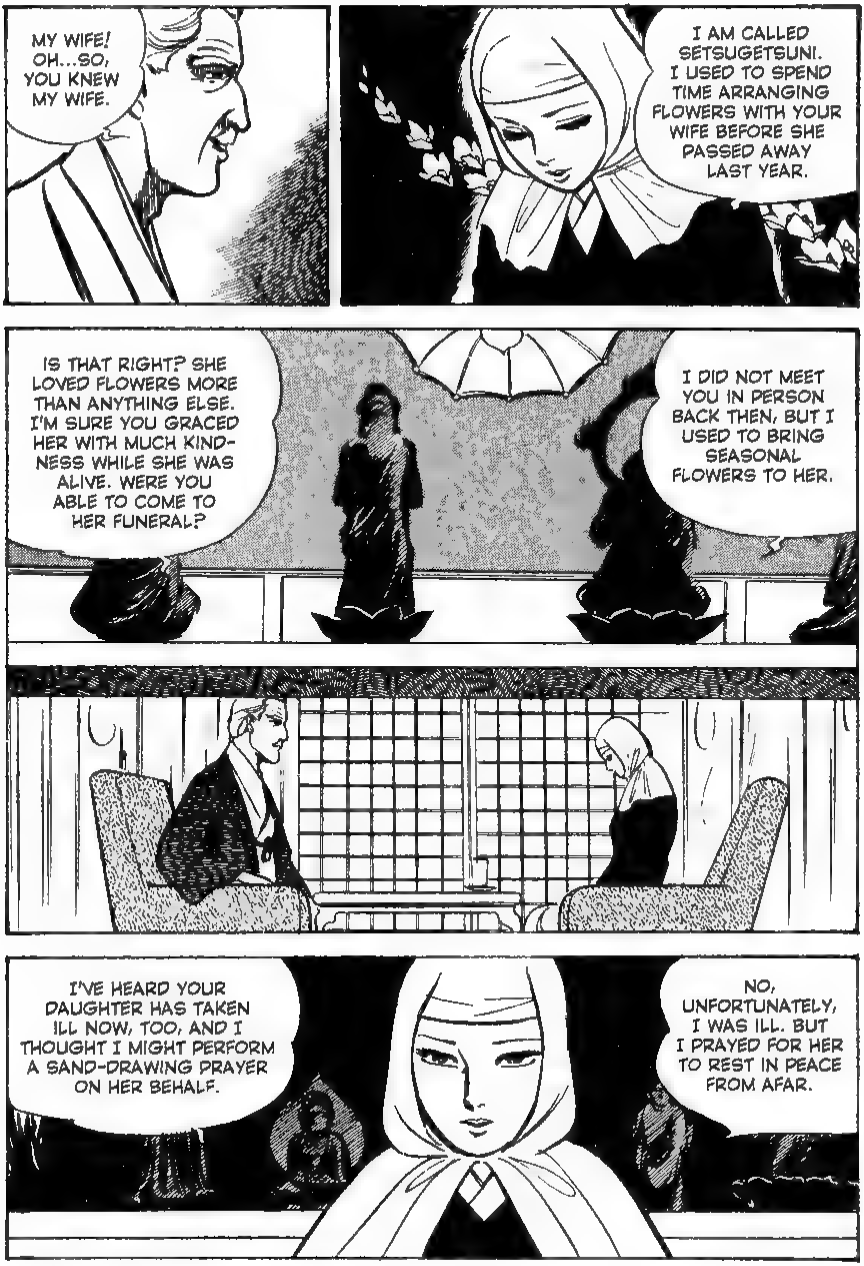
EPISODE 6
HOJICHO AND PRECIOUS FLOWERS, PART 3

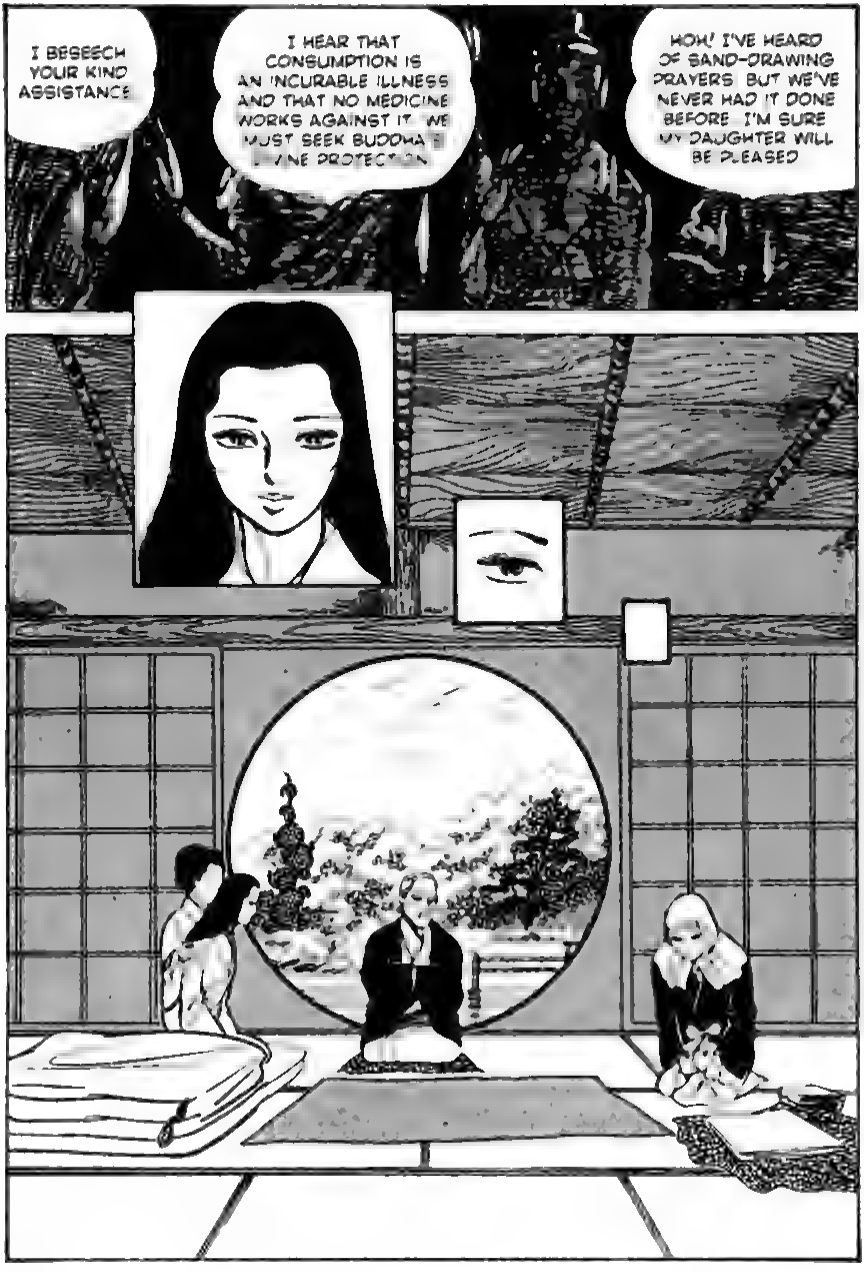


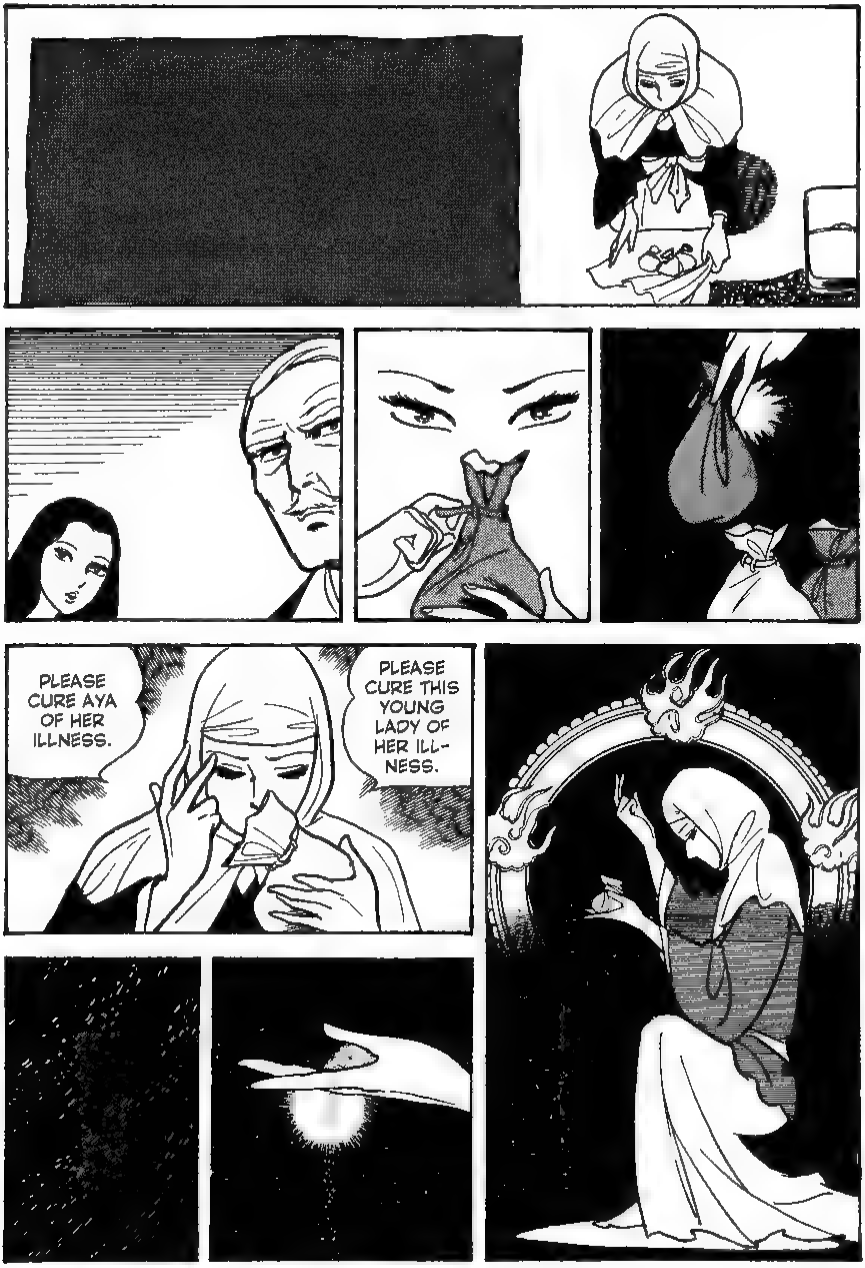


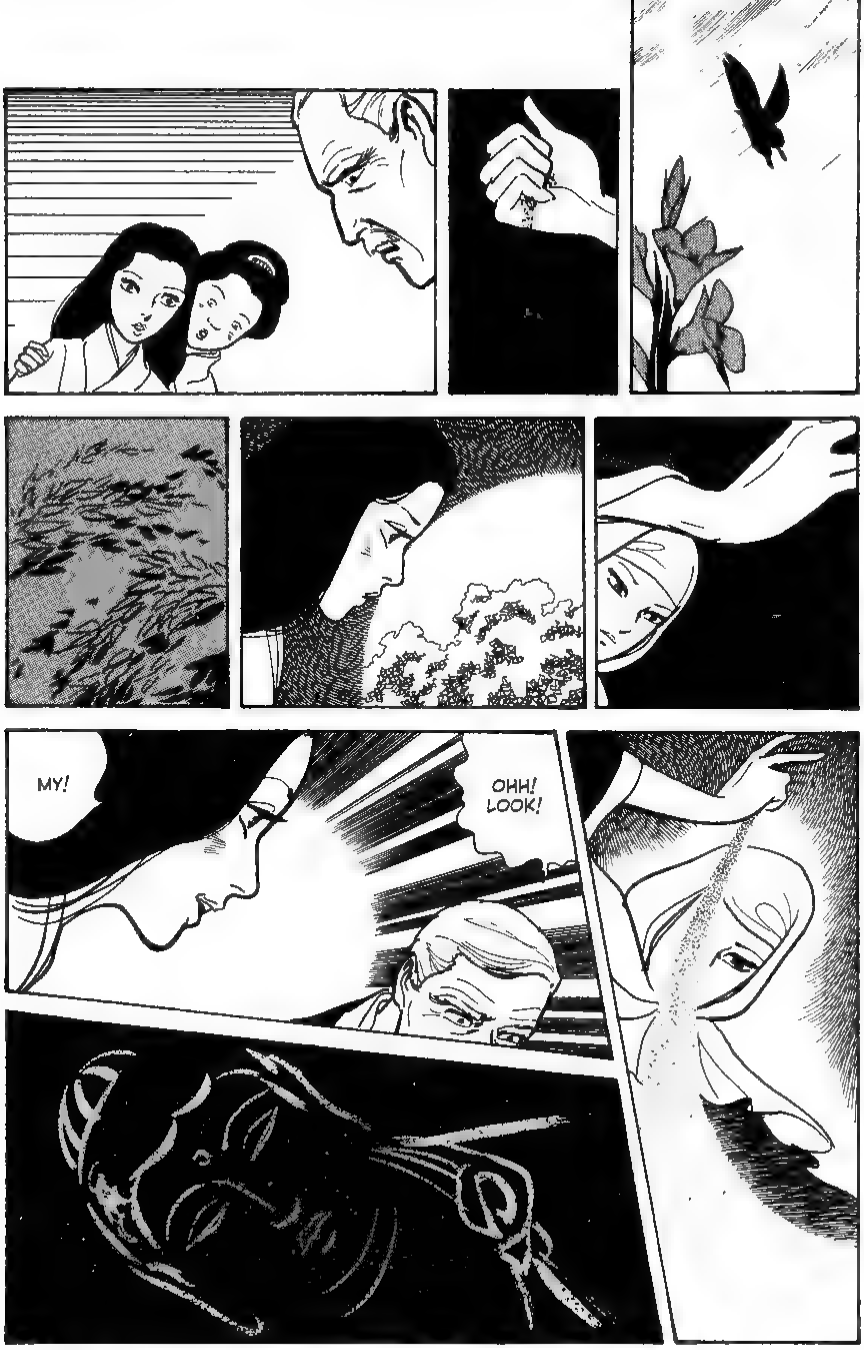
I TOLD YOU I WON'T SEE ANYONE TODAY.
MASTER, A VISITOR IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
...
...
BUT IT'S A NUN CALLED SETSUGETSUNI. SHE SAYS SHE'S HERE TO BLESS YOUR SICK DAUGHTER, SIR.
N-NO, SIR. IN FACT, I'VE ALREADY LET HER IN TO WAIT FOR YOU.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT FIRST? HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN I WON'T HESITATE TO SEE ANYONE WHO SERVES BUDDHA?

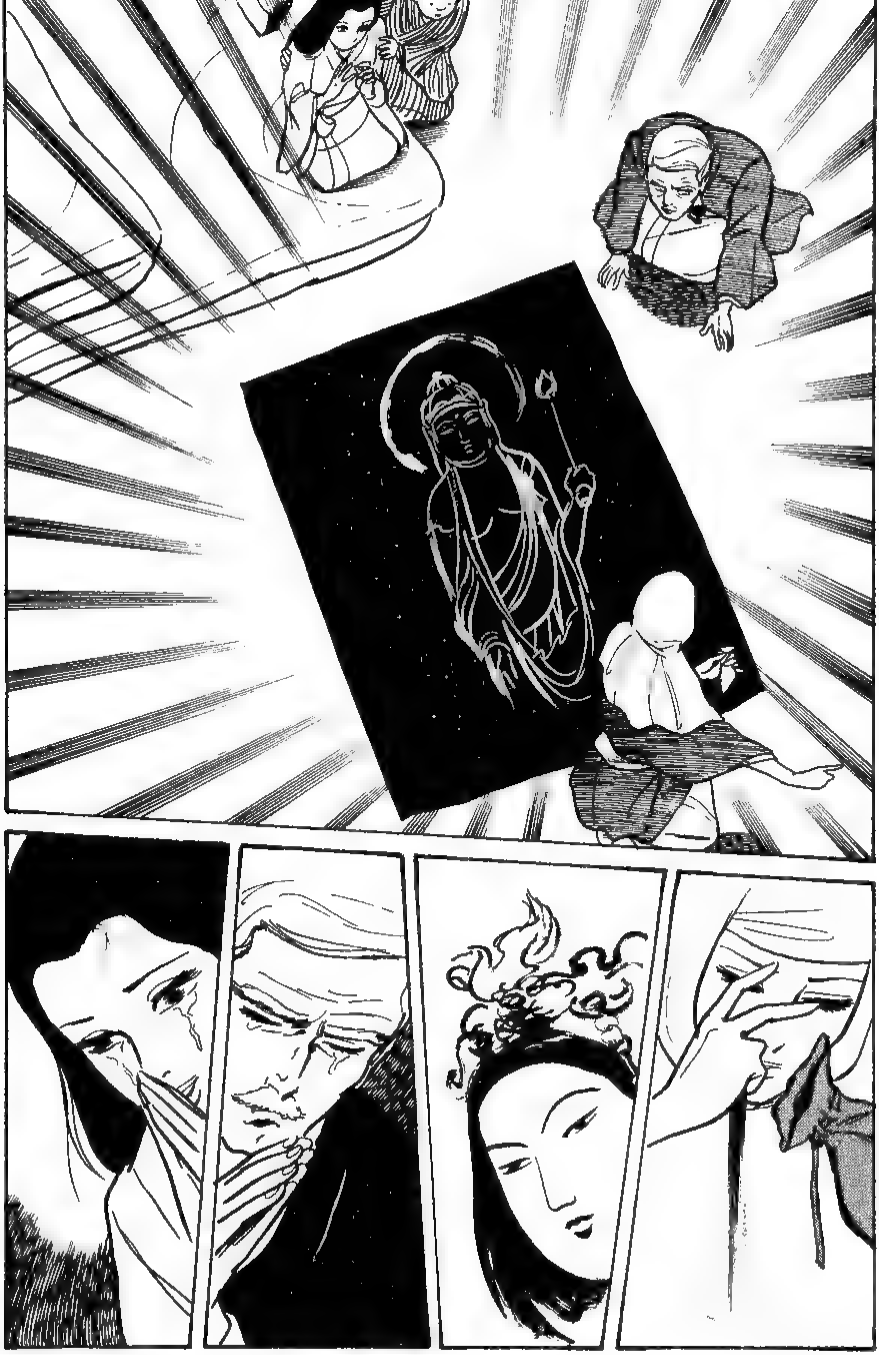

OHH!
WH...WHAT A BEAUTY. SHE'S A LIVING IMAGE OF BODDHISATVA...
ER... EXCUSE ME.
IT'S VERY NICE OF YOU TO COME ALL THE WAY TO SEE MY DAUGHTER.

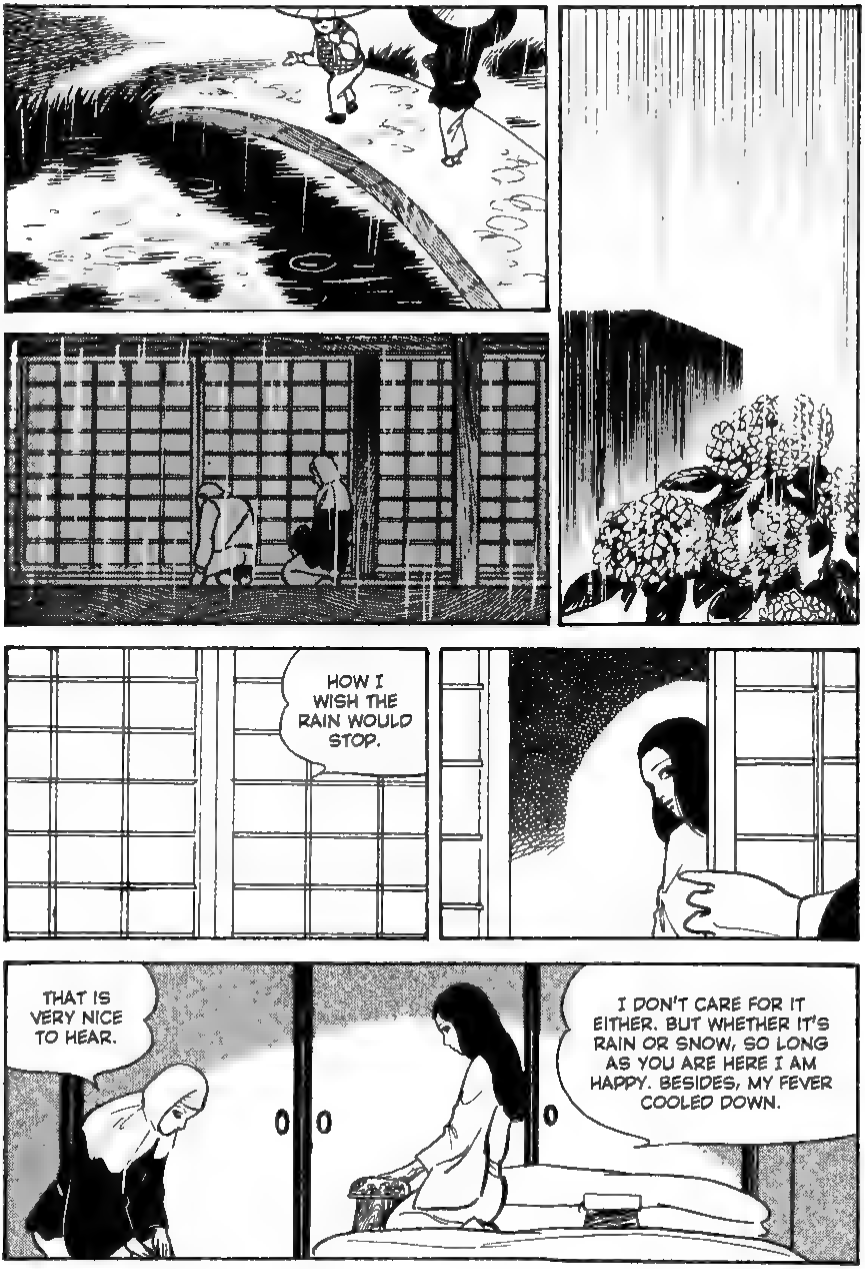

MY WIFE! OH...SO, YOU KNEW MY WIFE.
I AM CALLED SETSUGETSUNI. I USED TO SPEND TIME ARRANGING FLOWERS WITH YOUR WIFE BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR.
IS THAT RIGHT? SHE LOVED FLOWERS MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE. I'M SURE YOU GRACED HER WITH MUCH KINDNESS WHILE SHE WAS ALIVE. WERE YOU ABLE TO COME TO HER FUNERAL?
I DID NOT MEET YOU IN PERSON BACK THEN, BUT I USED TO BRING SEASONAL FLOWERS TO HER.
I'VE HEARD YOUR DAUGHTER HAS TAKEN ILL NOW, TOO, AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT PERFORM A SAND-DRAWING PRAYER ON HER BEHALF.
NO, UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS ILL. BUT I PRAYED FOR HER TO REST IN PEACE FROM AFAR.


I BESEECH YOUR KIND ASSISTANCE
I HEAR THAT CONSUMPTION IS AN INCURABLE ILLNESS AND THAT NO MEDICINE WORKS AGAINST IT. WE MUST SEEK BUDDHA'S DIVINE PROTECTION
HOH! I'VE HEARD OF SAND-DRAWING PRAYERS BUT WE'VE NEVER HAD IT DONE BEFORE. I'M SURE MY DAUGHTER WILL BE PLEASED


PLEASE CURE AYA OF HER ILLNESS.
PLEASE CURE THIS YOUNG LADY OF HER ILL-NESS.


MY!
OHH! LOOK!



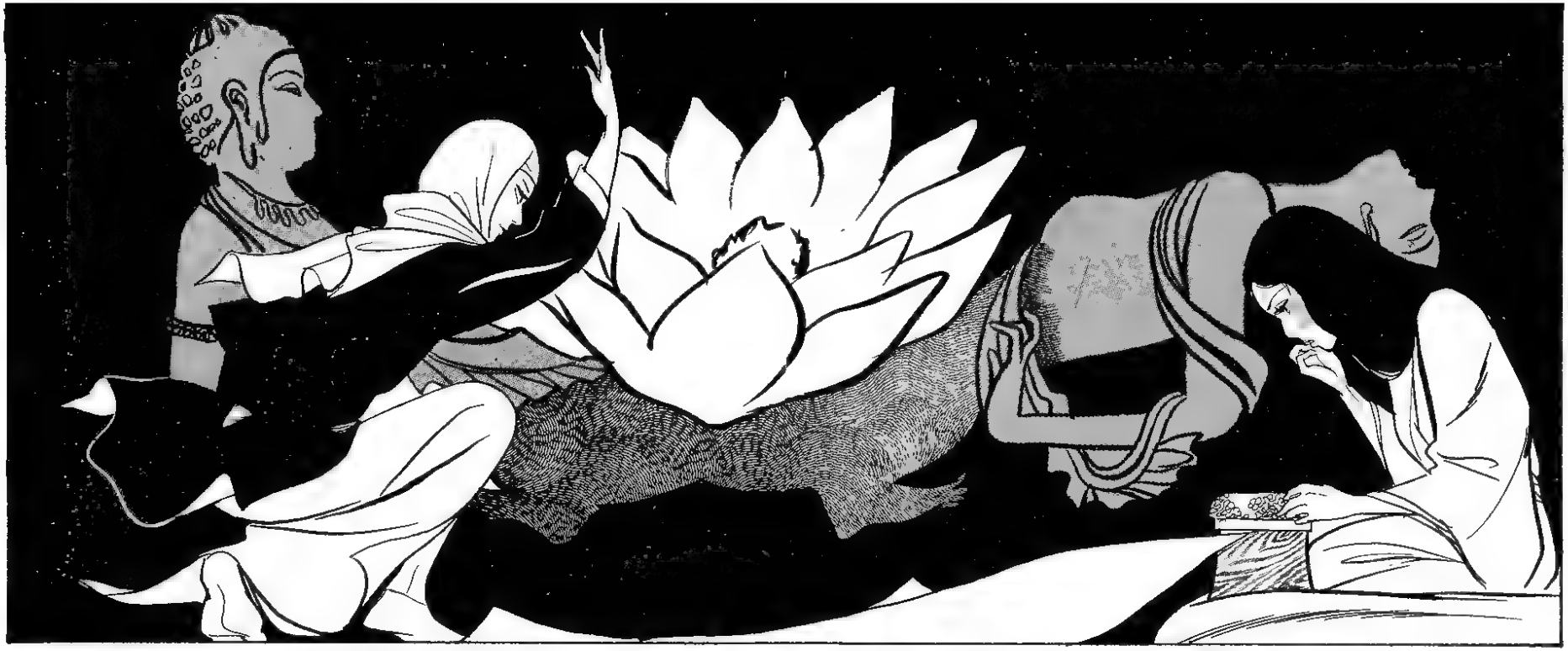

HOW I WISH THE RAIN WOULD STOP.
THAT IS VERY NICE TO HEAR.
I DON'T CARE FOR IT EITHER. BUT WHETHER IT'S RAIN OR SNOW, SO LONG AS YOU ARE HERE I AM HAPPY. BESIDES, MY FEVER COOLED DOWN.

WELL, WELL, WHAT SHALL I DRAW?
WHAT WILL YOU DRAW TODAY? I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE.
FLOPSHH
SWIP
SCRATCH
THIS IS AN ANIMAL CALLED AN ELEPHANT. IT LIVES IN A COUNTRY CALLED INDIA.

WOW!
AND THIS IS A TIGER.
.....
WHAT'S NEXT?
HCNR2
SAA
SAAAS
SAAAA

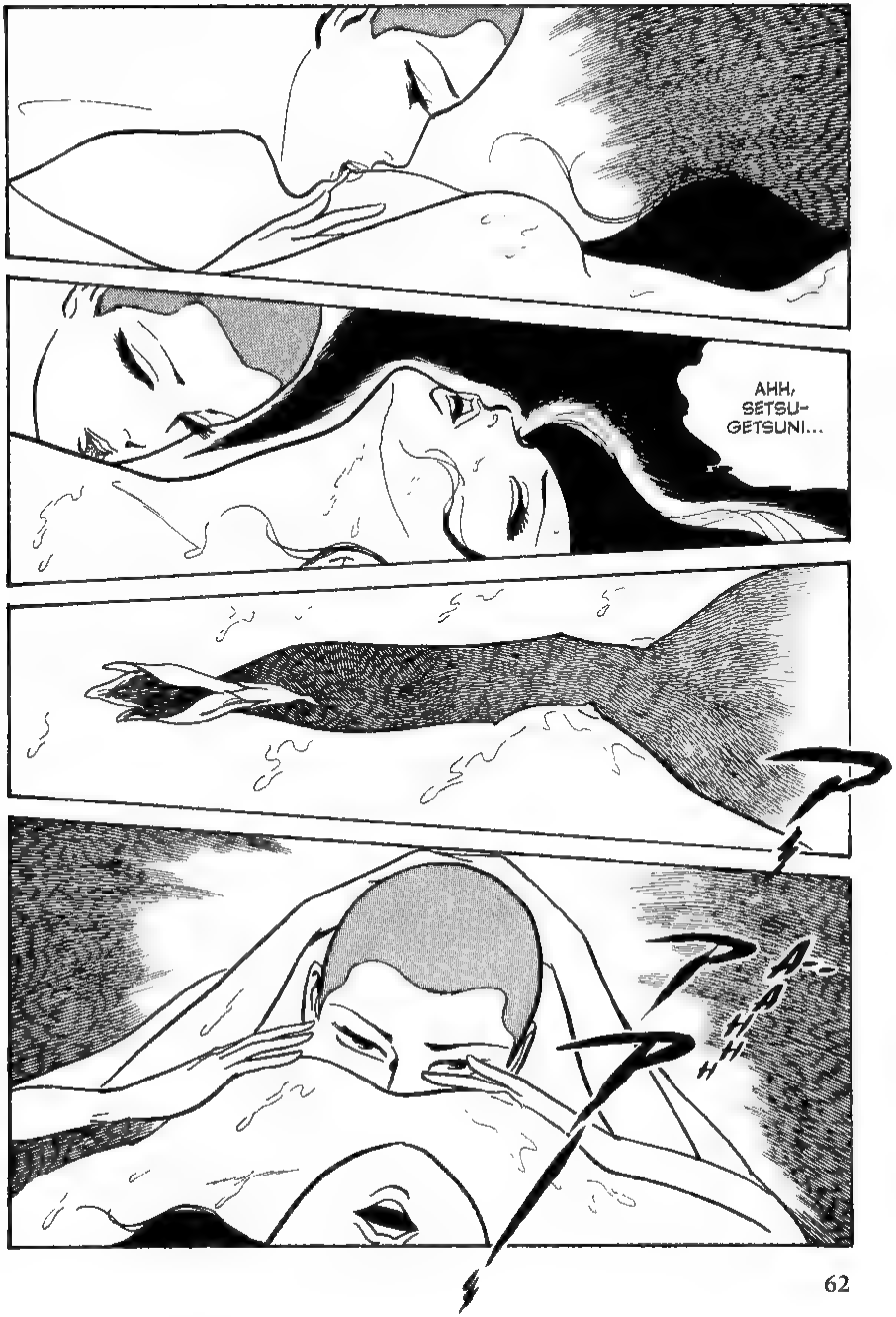
SHWAPP
THIS IS A PICTURE OF TANTRIC BUDDHA THAT DEPICTS A MAN AND A WOMAN HAVING INTERCOURSE. A MAN'S PENIS LOOKS LIKE THIS.
UH...

AND A WOMAN'S VAGINA LOOKS LIKE THIS...
UHH...
WHEN A PENIS ENTERS A VAGINA, A MAN AND A WOMAN EMBRACE EACH OTHER IN A BLISSFUL DELIGHT.



FWA
...
...
AYA, YOU WILL MARRY SOMEDAY, AND THIS IS SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT.

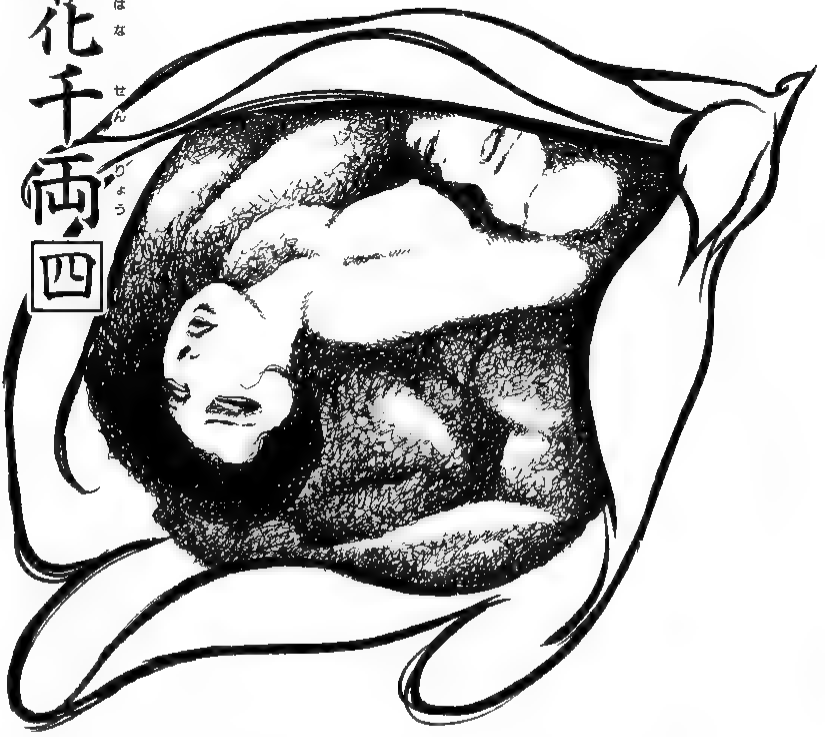
SETSU...
GETSU...
NI...
THE VAGINA IS COMPLEX, AND IT IS TOO HARD TO DRAW WITH SAND. PLEASE TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT MINE. THIS IS WHERE A PENIS ENTERS.

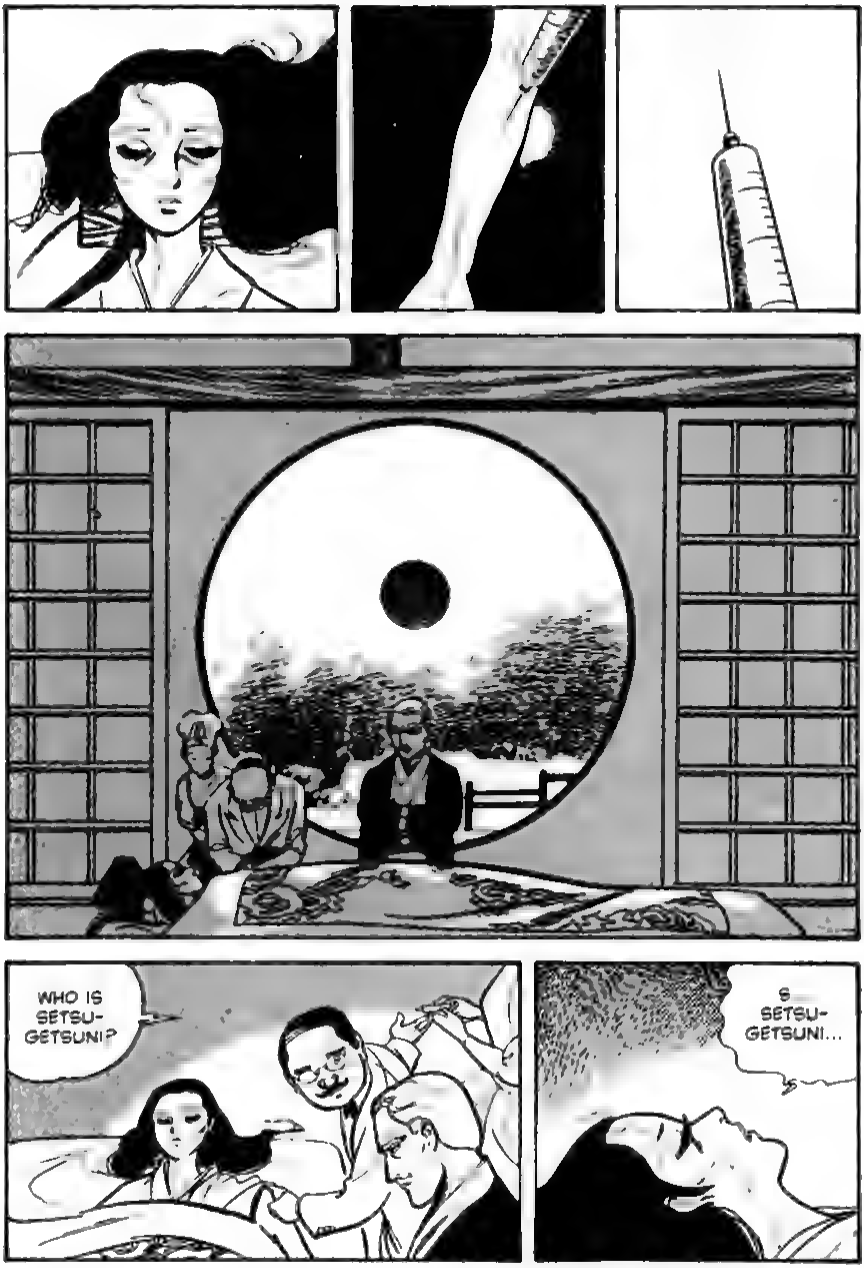

AHH, SETSU-GETSUNI...
P
P
A---
AHHH
P

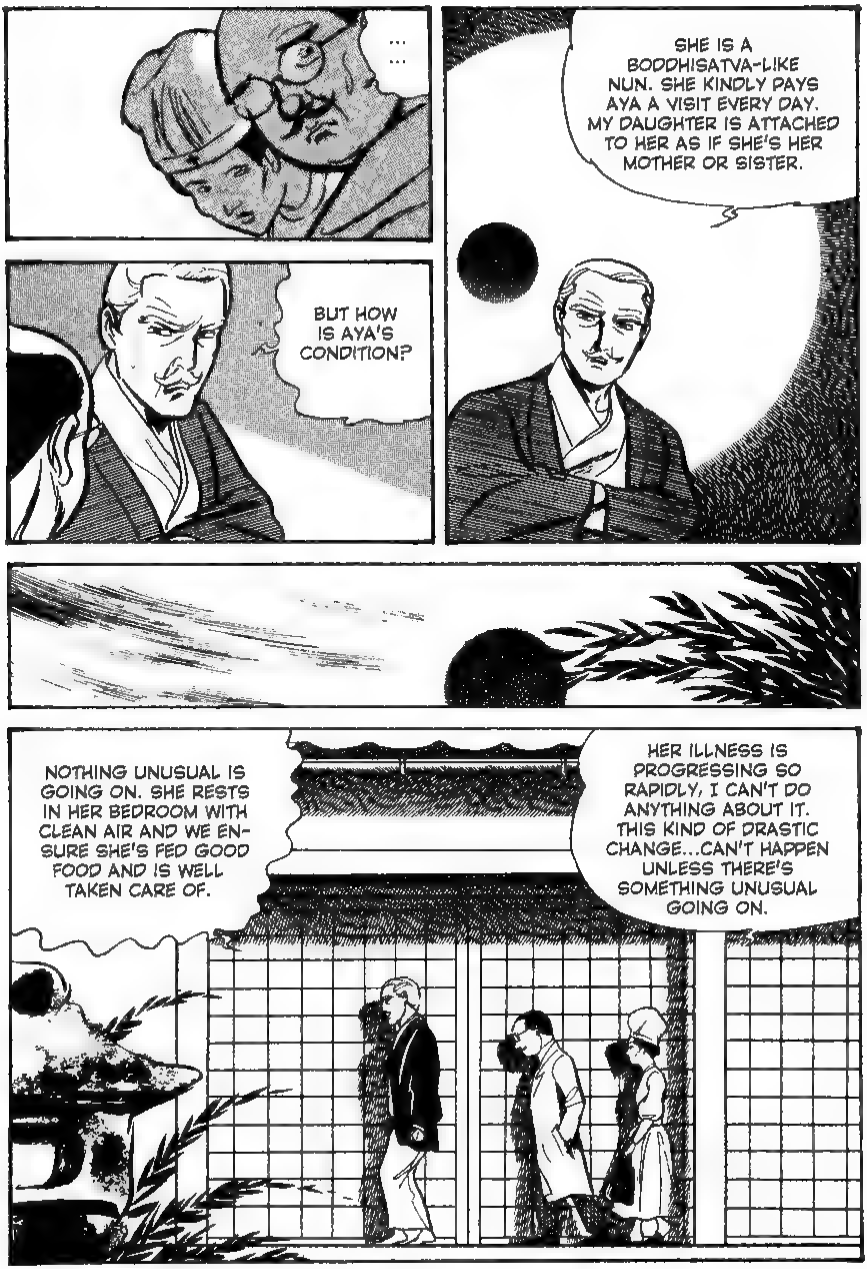
外題之六

極楽法事帳花千両 四

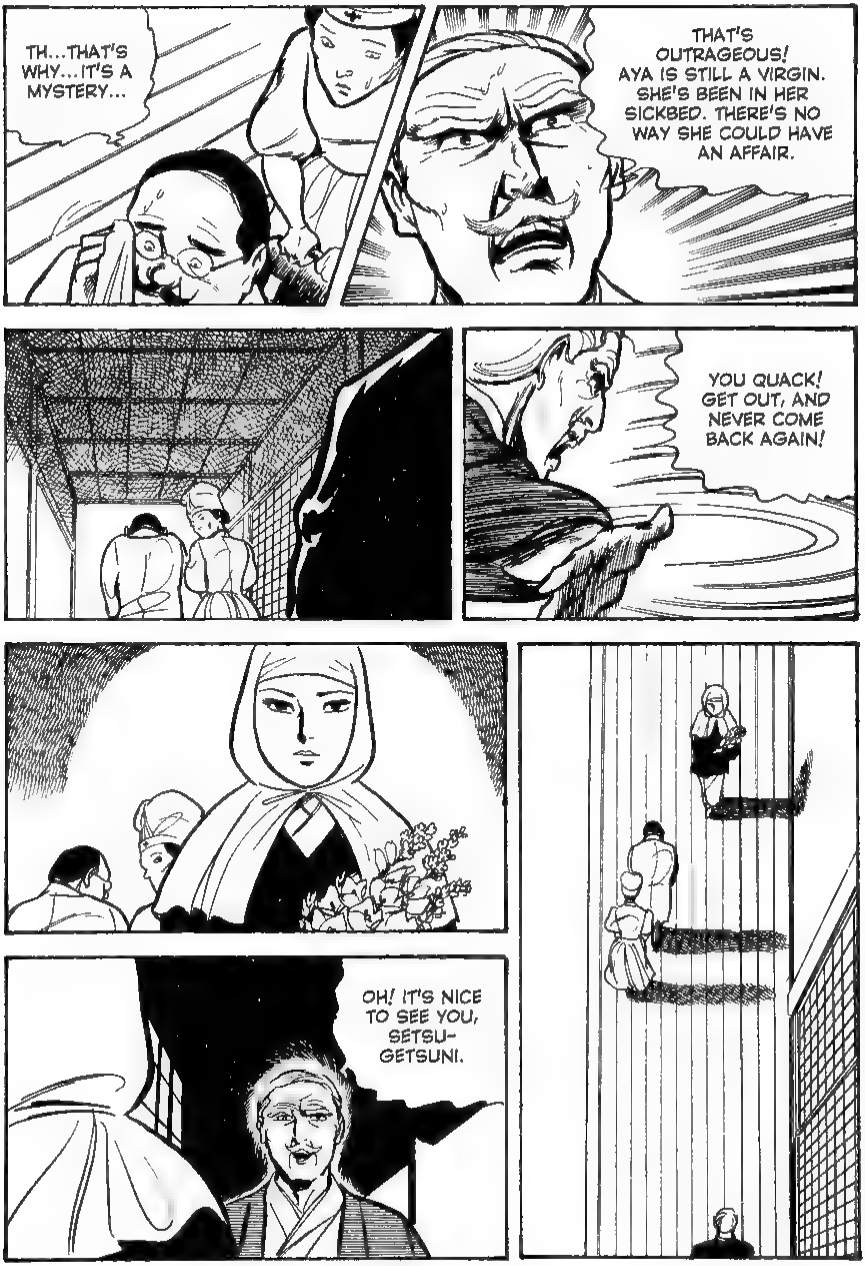
EPISODE 6
HOJICHO
AND
PRECIOUS
FLOWERS,
PART 4



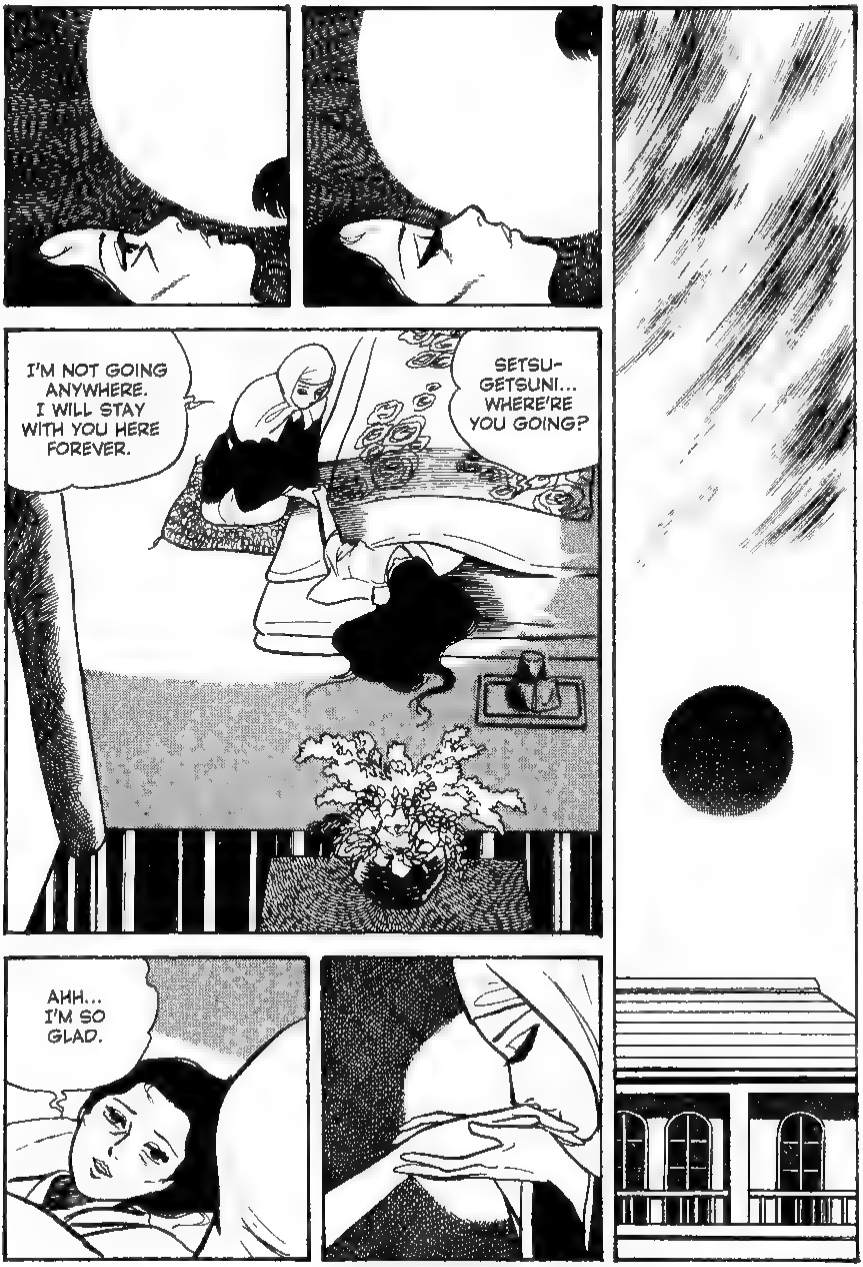

WHO IS SETSU-GETSUNI?
S SETSU-GETSUNI...


...
...
SHE IS A BODDHISATVA-LIKE NUN. SHE KINDLY PAYS AYA A VISIT EVERY DAY. MY DAUGHTER IS ATTACHED TO HER AS IF SHE'S HER MOTHER OR SISTER.
BUT HOW IS AYA'S CONDITION?
NOTHING UNUSUAL IS GOING ON. SHE RESTS IN HER BEDROOM WITH CLEAN AIR AND WE ENSURE SHE'S FED GOOD FOOD AND IS WELL TAKEN CARE OF.
HER ILLNESS IS PROGRESSING SO RAPIDLY, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. THIS KIND OF DRASTIC CHANGE...CAN'T HAPPEN UNLESS THERE'S SOMETHING UNUSUAL GOING ON.

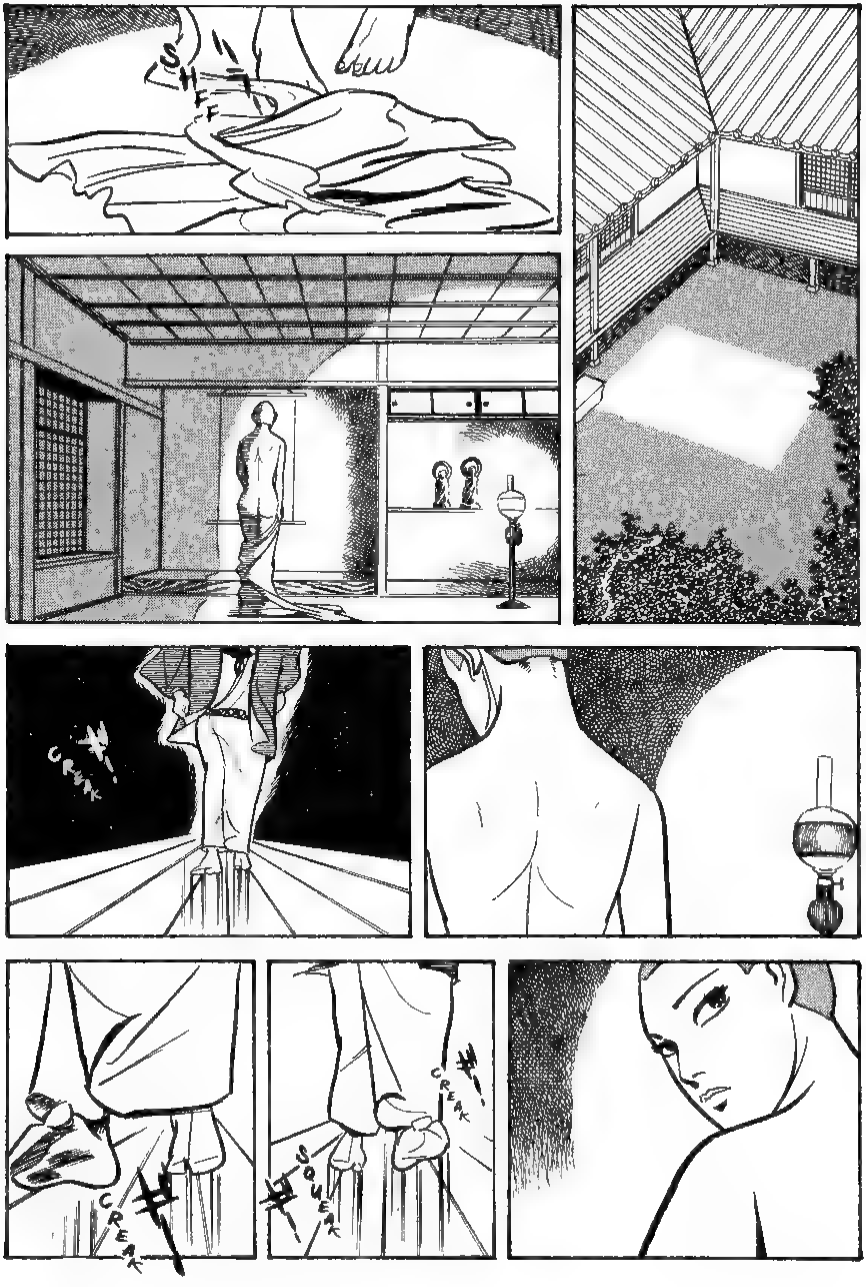
WHAT IS IT? DON'T TALK AS IF SOMETHING IS STUCK IN YOUR TEETH. SPEAK UP!
IT'S RATHER AWKWARD TO MENTION THIS, BUT...
WHAT?
IT'S AN AFFAIR.
THE WORST ENEMY OF CONSUMPTION IS...ER...
SHE MUST MAINTAIN ABSOLUTE ABSTINENCE. FOR HER TO DISCHARGE A DROP OF SEXUAL LUBRICANT IS EQUIVALENT TO LOSING FORTY DROPS OF BLOOD.
WHAT-EVER IT IS, SAY IT!
N...NO. I'M NOT SAYING THAT. IT'S JUST THAT WHEN A PATIENT'S CONDITION DRASTICALLY WORSENS LIKE THIS, THAT'S HOW IT'S CLINICALLY EXPLAINED...
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT MY DAUGHTER IS SEEING A MAN SOMEHOW IN SECRET?

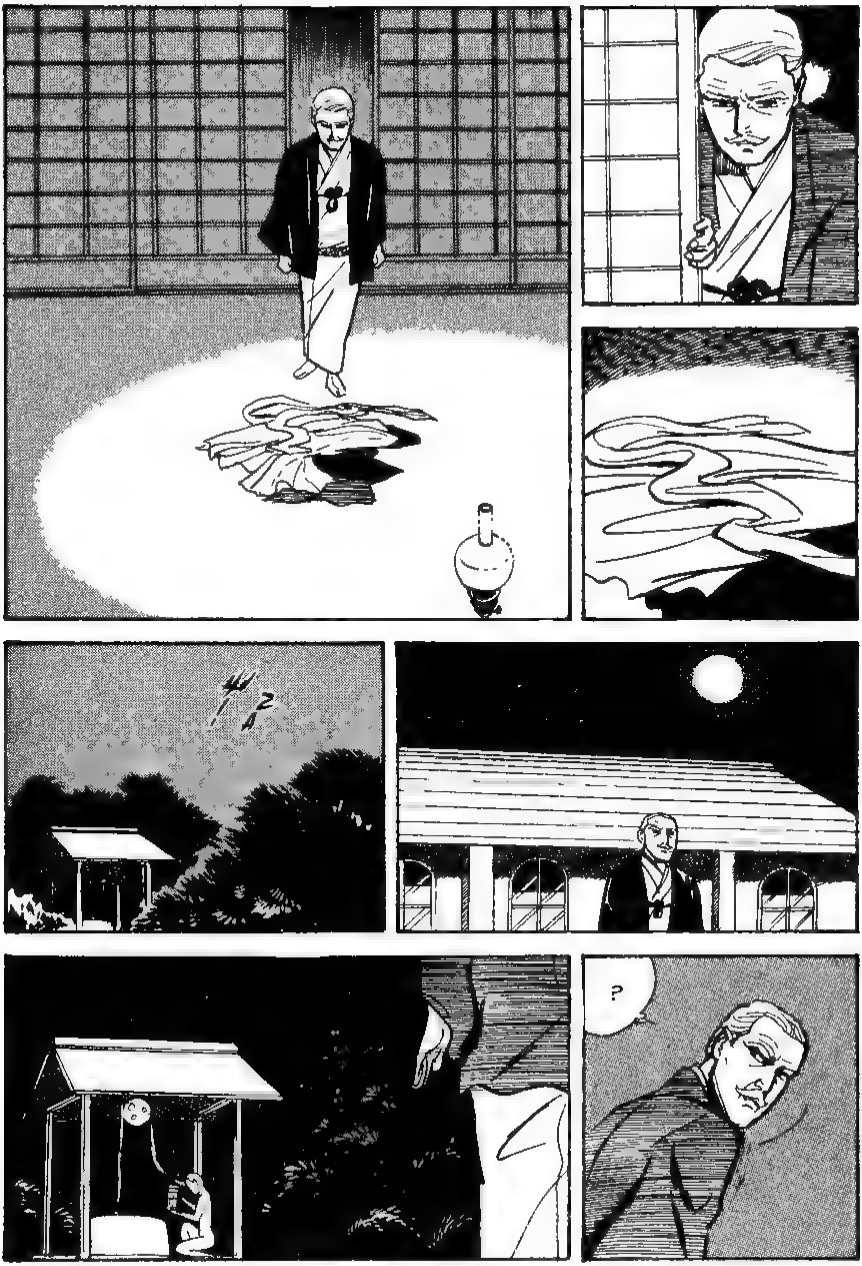

TH...THAT'S WHY...IT'S A MYSTERY...
THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS! AYA IS STILL A VIRGIN. SHE'S BEEN IN HER SICKBED. THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD HAVE AN AFFAIR.
YOU QUACK! GET OUT, AND NEVER COME BACK AGAIN!
OH! IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU, SETSU-GETSUNI.

NOT SO GOOD.
HOW IS AYA DOING?
WHAT?
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT QUACK DOCTOR WOULD...
MAYBE THE CHANGE OF SEASON CAUSED HER TO CATCH A COLD.
LET ME STAY WITH AYA. I'D LIKE TO NURSE HER DAY IN AND DAY OUT.
OH--OH NO, IT'S NOTHING.
HOW VERY KIND OF YOU. I'M SURE AYA WILL BE PLEASED.

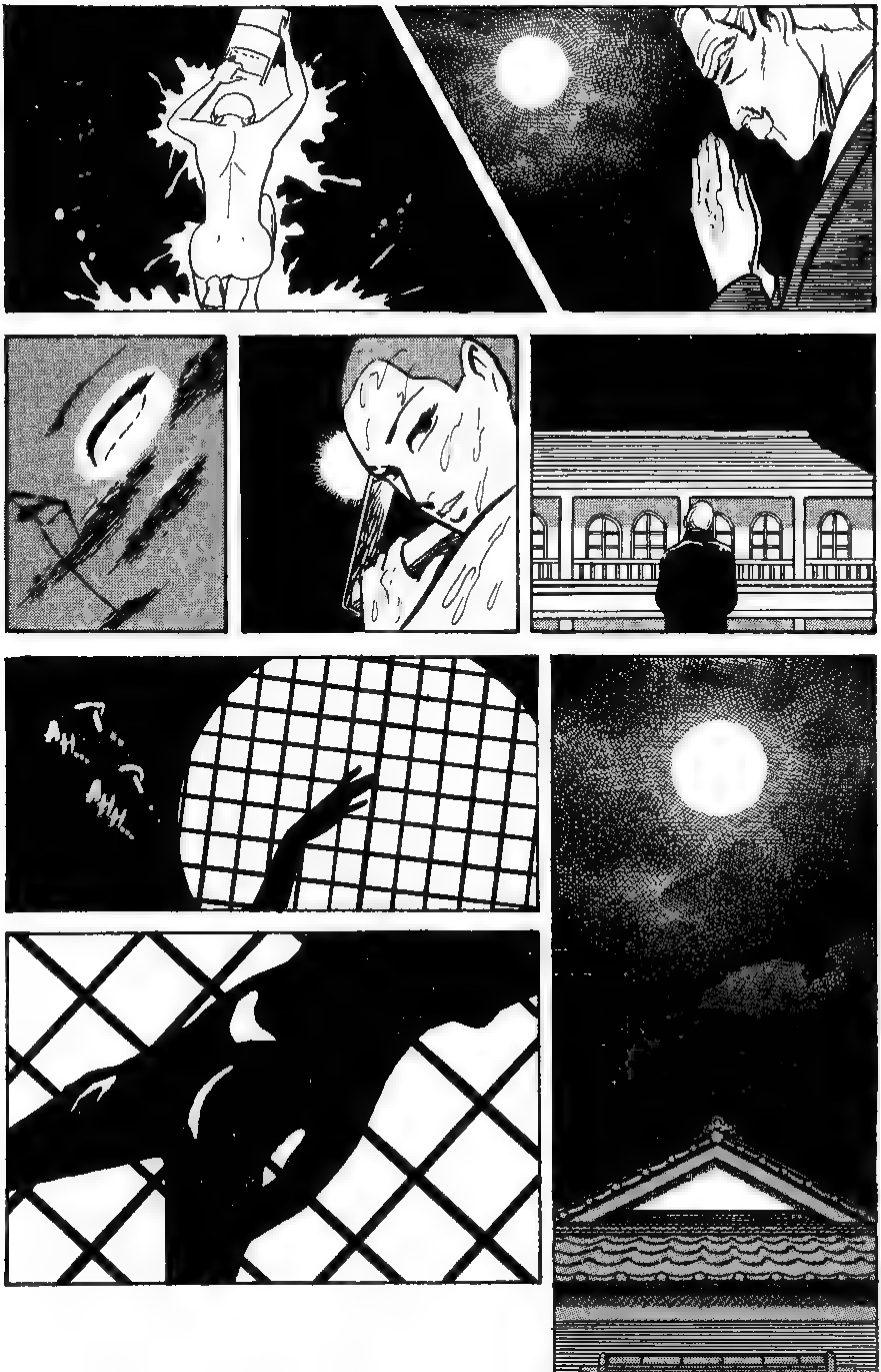

I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I WILL STAY WITH YOU HERE FOREVER.
SETSU-GETSUNI... WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
AHH... I'M SO GLAD.

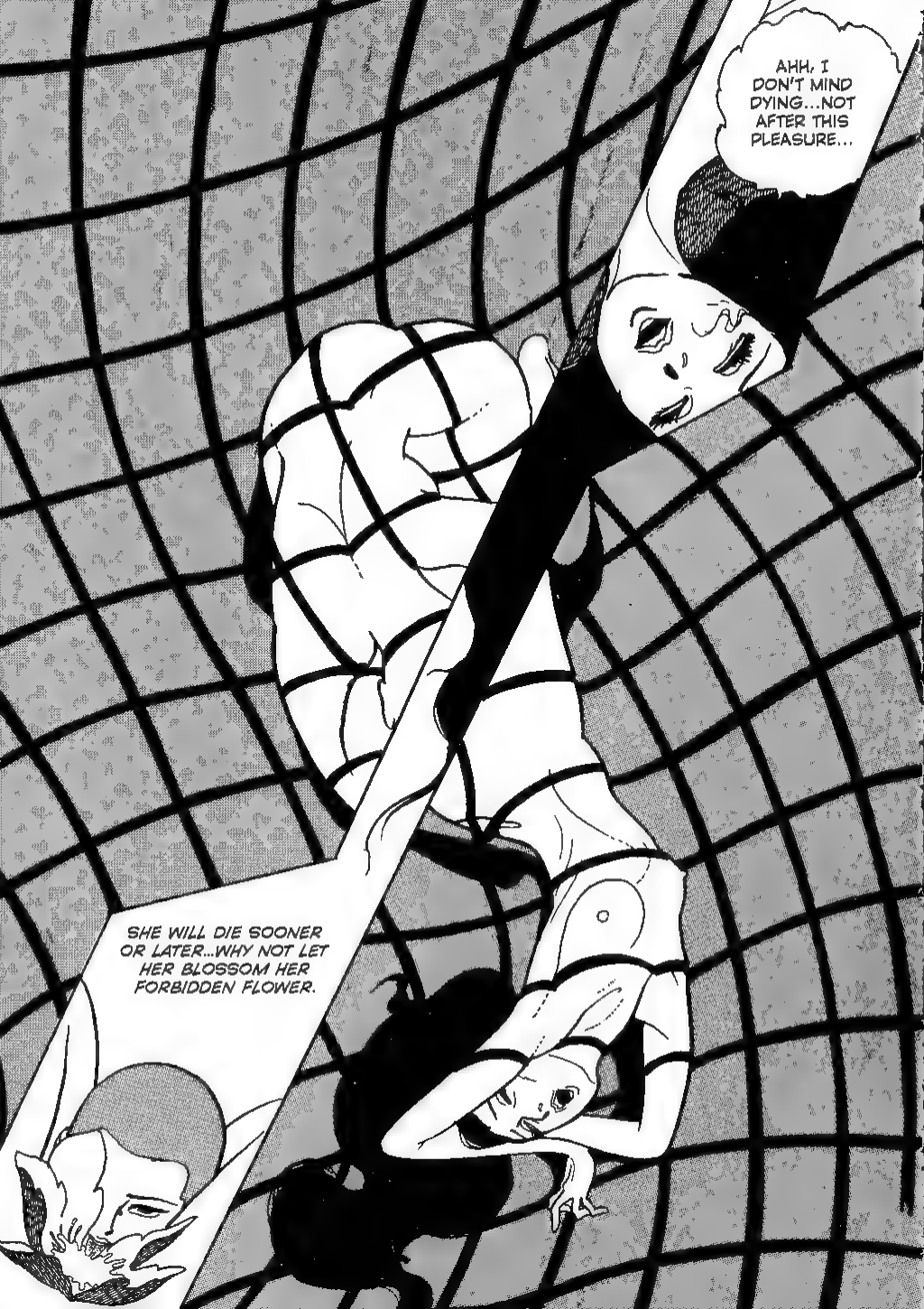
"WHEN A PATIENT'S CONDITION DRASTICALLY WORSENS LIKE THAT
"...FOR HER TO DISCHARGE A DROP OF SEXUAL LUBRICANT IS EQUIVALENT TO LOSING FORTY DROPS OF BLOOD."

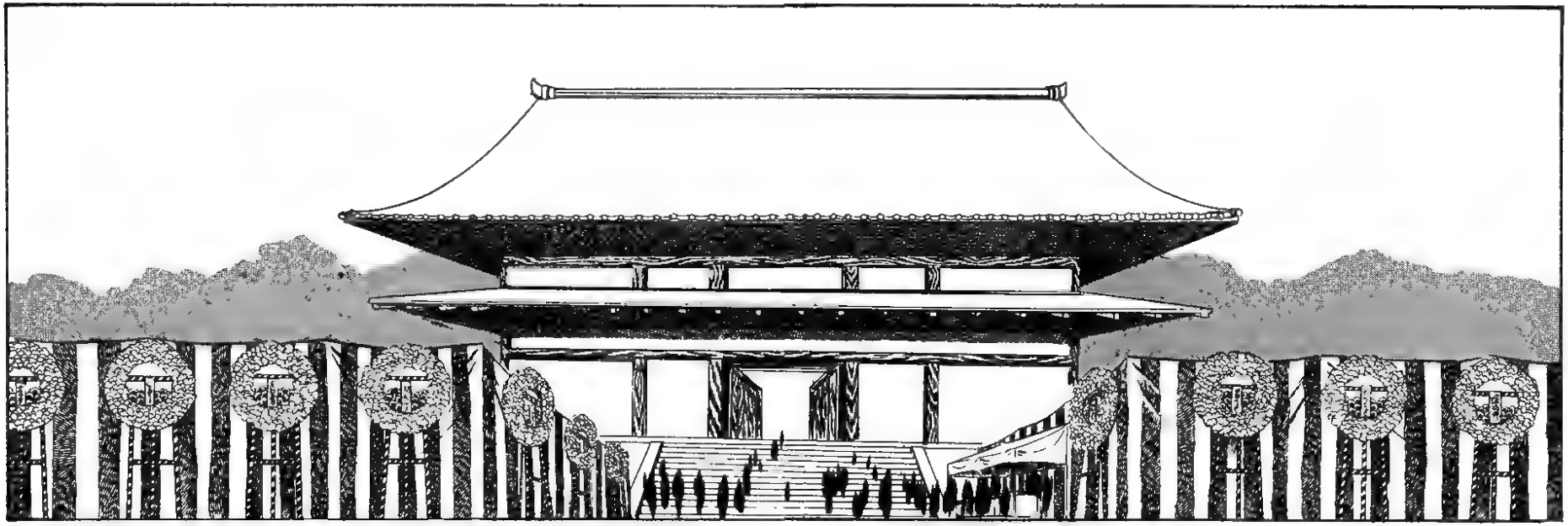

SHIFT
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
SQUEAK
CREAK

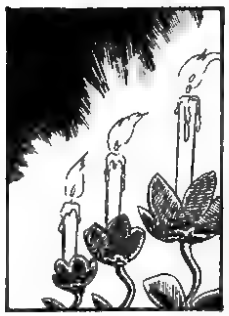


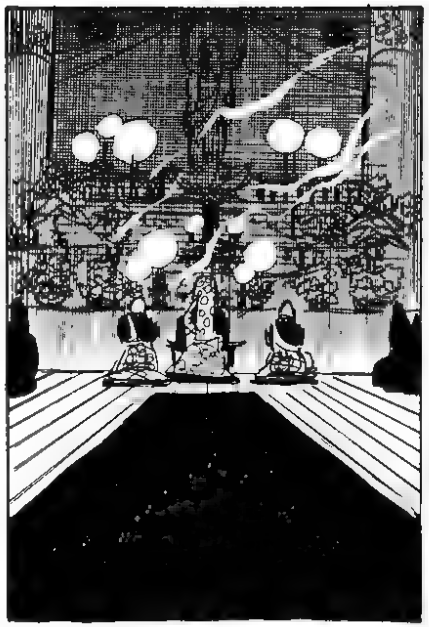
NAMU AMIDA
PLEASE CURE AYA'S ILLNESS.

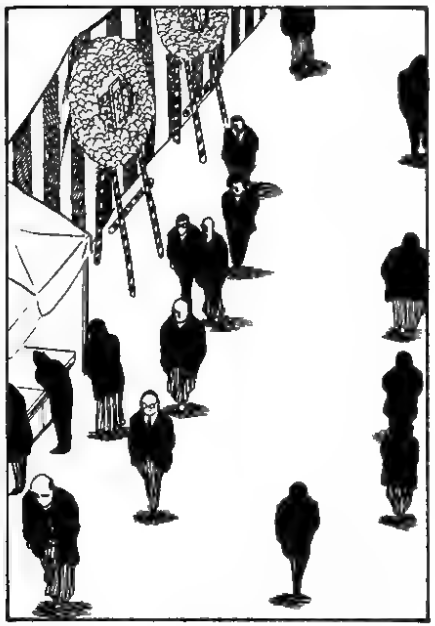


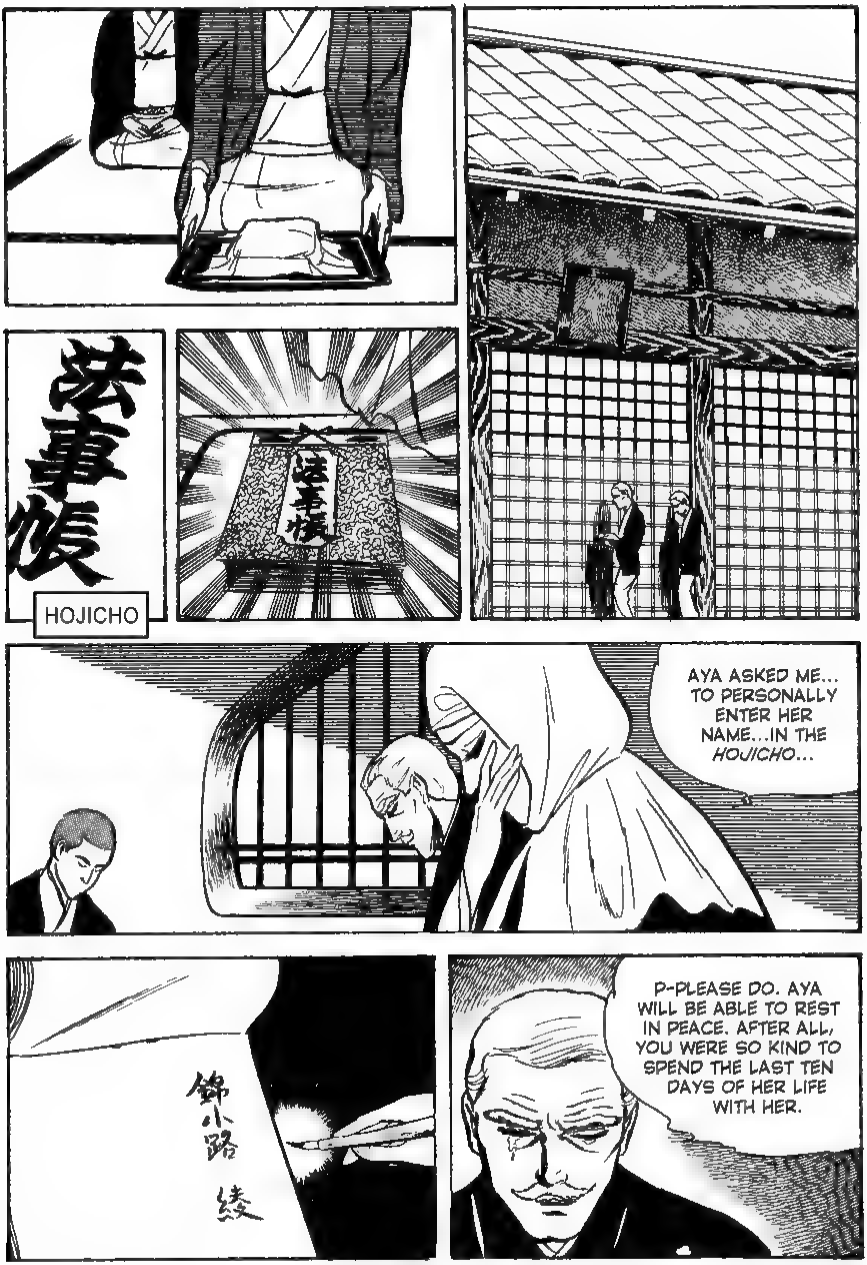

AHH, I DON'T MIND DYING...NOT AFTER THIS PLEASURE...
SHE WILL DIE SOONER OR LATER...WHY NOT LET HER BLOSSOM HER FORBIDDEN FLOWER.

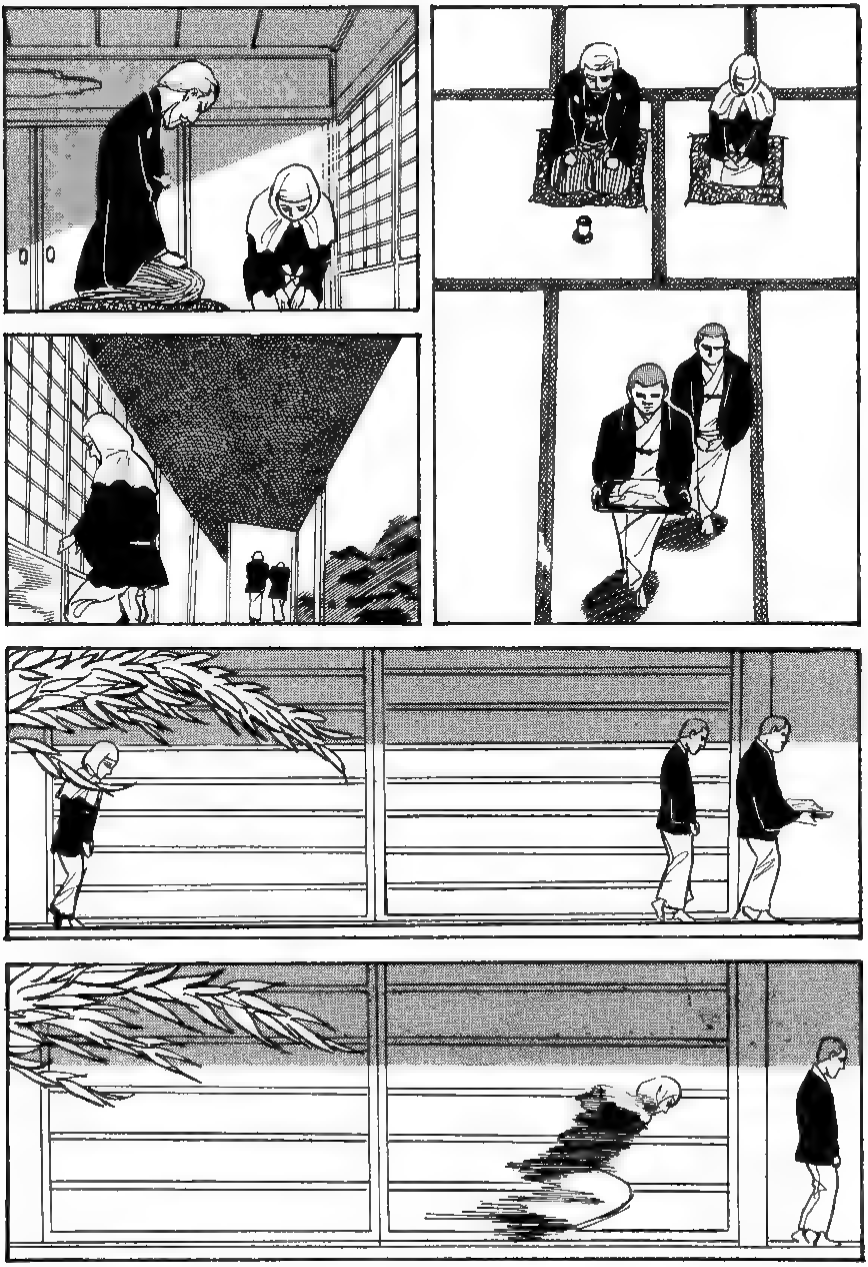


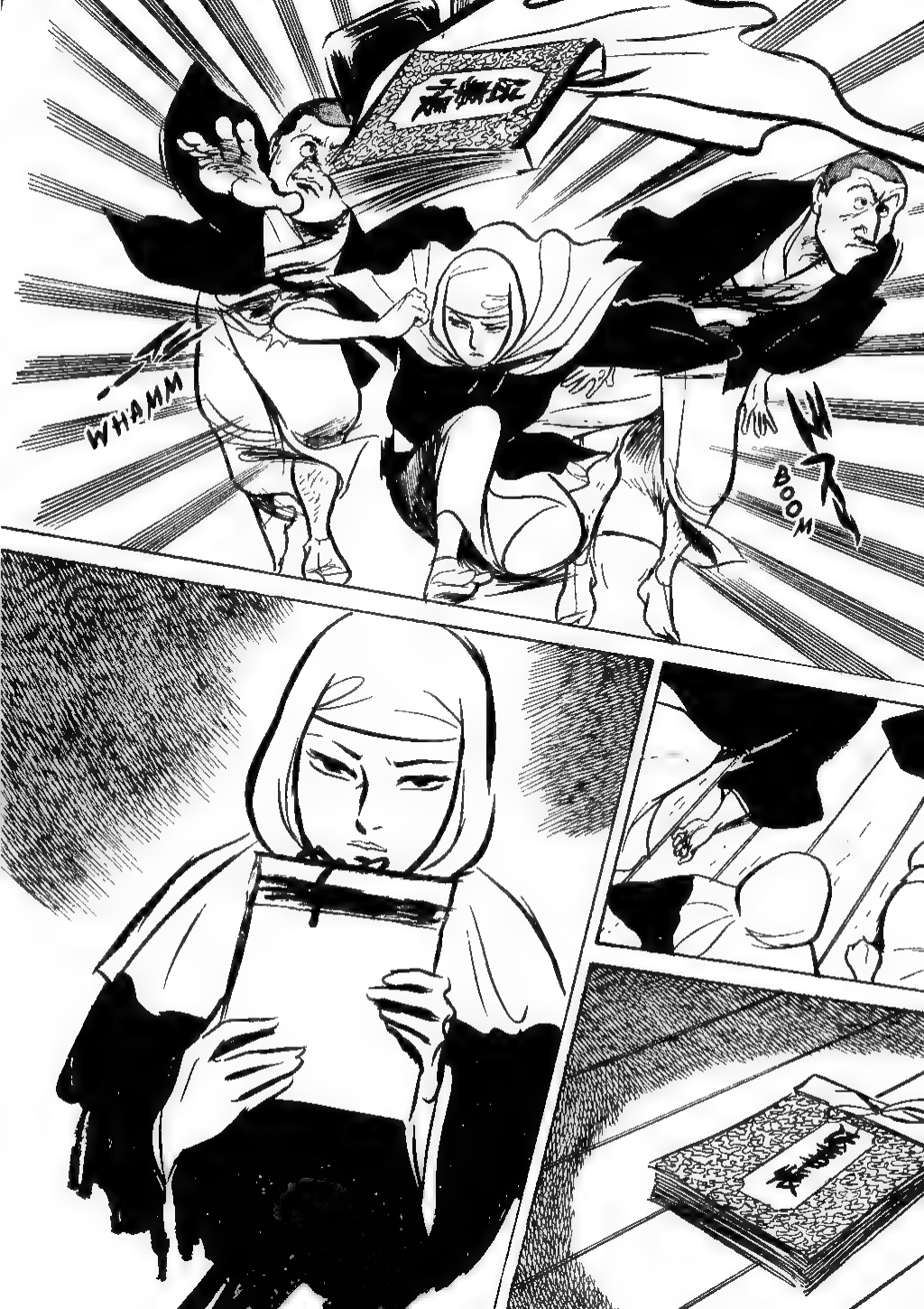


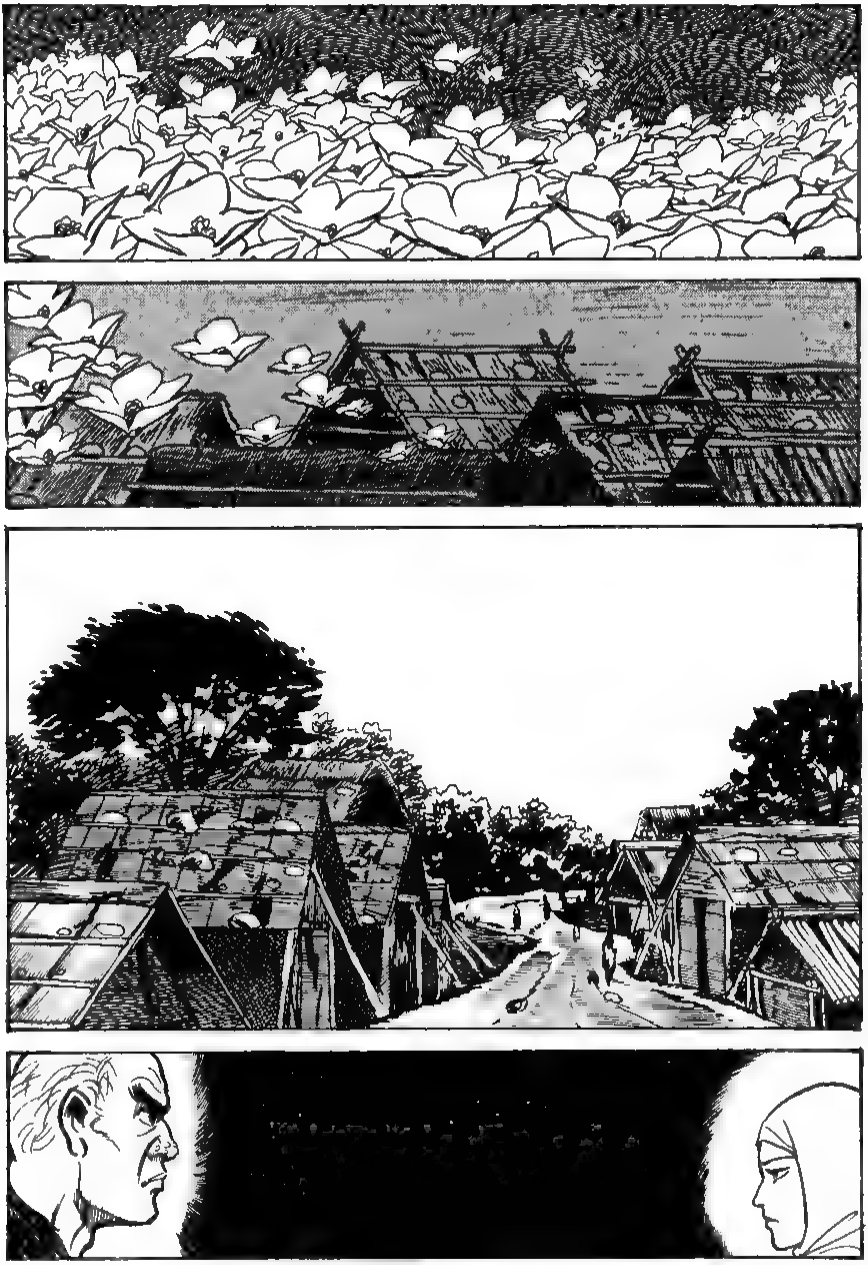





法事帳
HOJICHO
法事帳
AYA ASKED ME... TO PERSONALLY ENTER HER NAME...IN THE HOJICHO...
錦小路 綾
P-PLEASE DO. AYA WILL BE ABLE TO REST IN PEACE. AFTER ALL, YOU WERE SO KIND TO SPEND THE LAST TEN DAYS OF HER LIFE WITH HER.




WHAMM
BOOM



WE FOUND OKONO KITAHAMA. HER ADDRESS IS ON THAT PIECE OF PAPER WE'LL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR THE OTHER TWO
OKONO KITAHAMA...

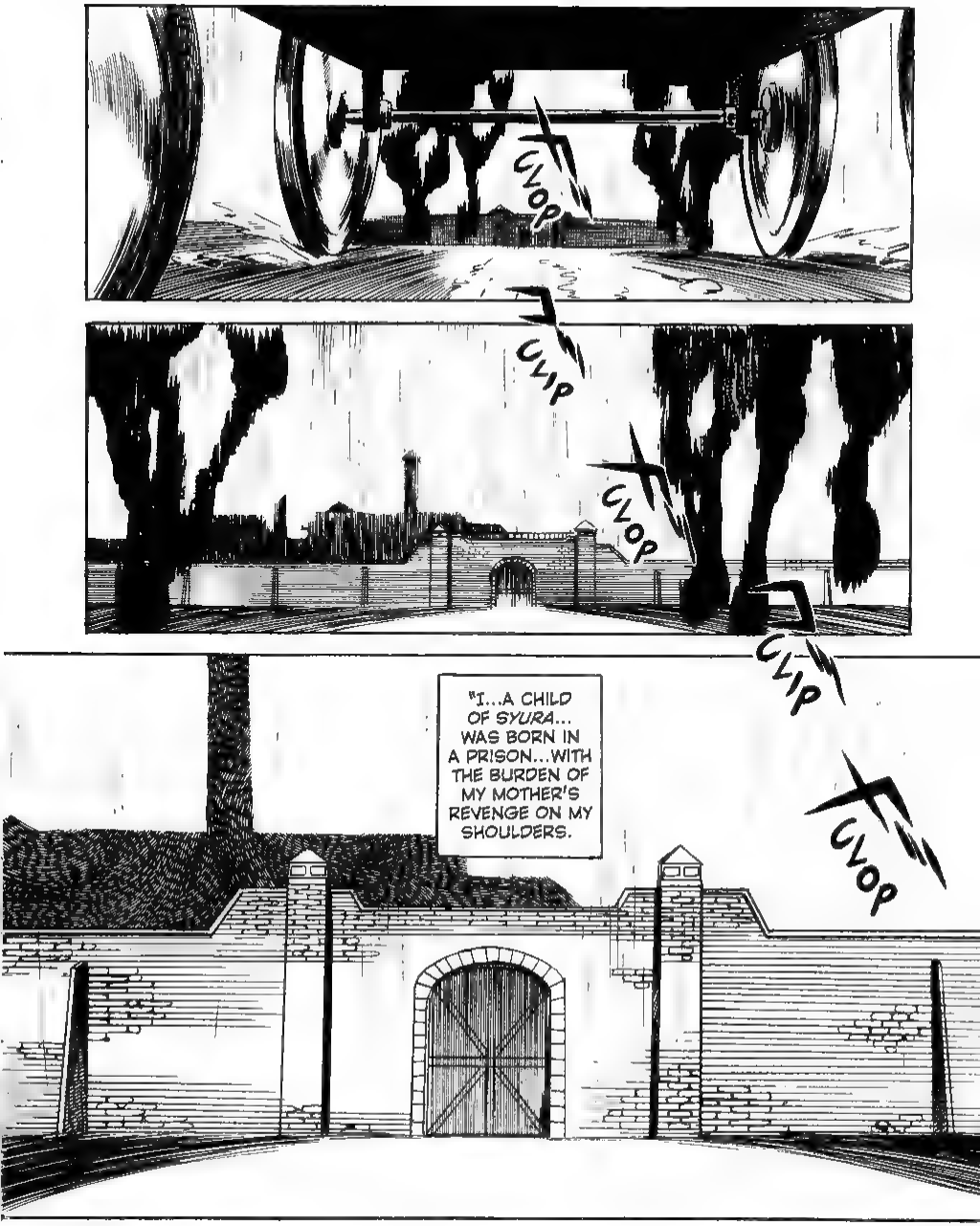
外題之七

鏤骨彫心花面影（るこつちょうしんはなのかんばせ）

EPISODE 7 HARSH TRAINING AND A BLOOMING COUNTENANCE

CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP

CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP


CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
"I...A CHILD OF SYURA... WAS BORN IN A PRISON...WITH THE BURDEN OF MY MOTHER'S REVENGE ON MY SHOULDERS.

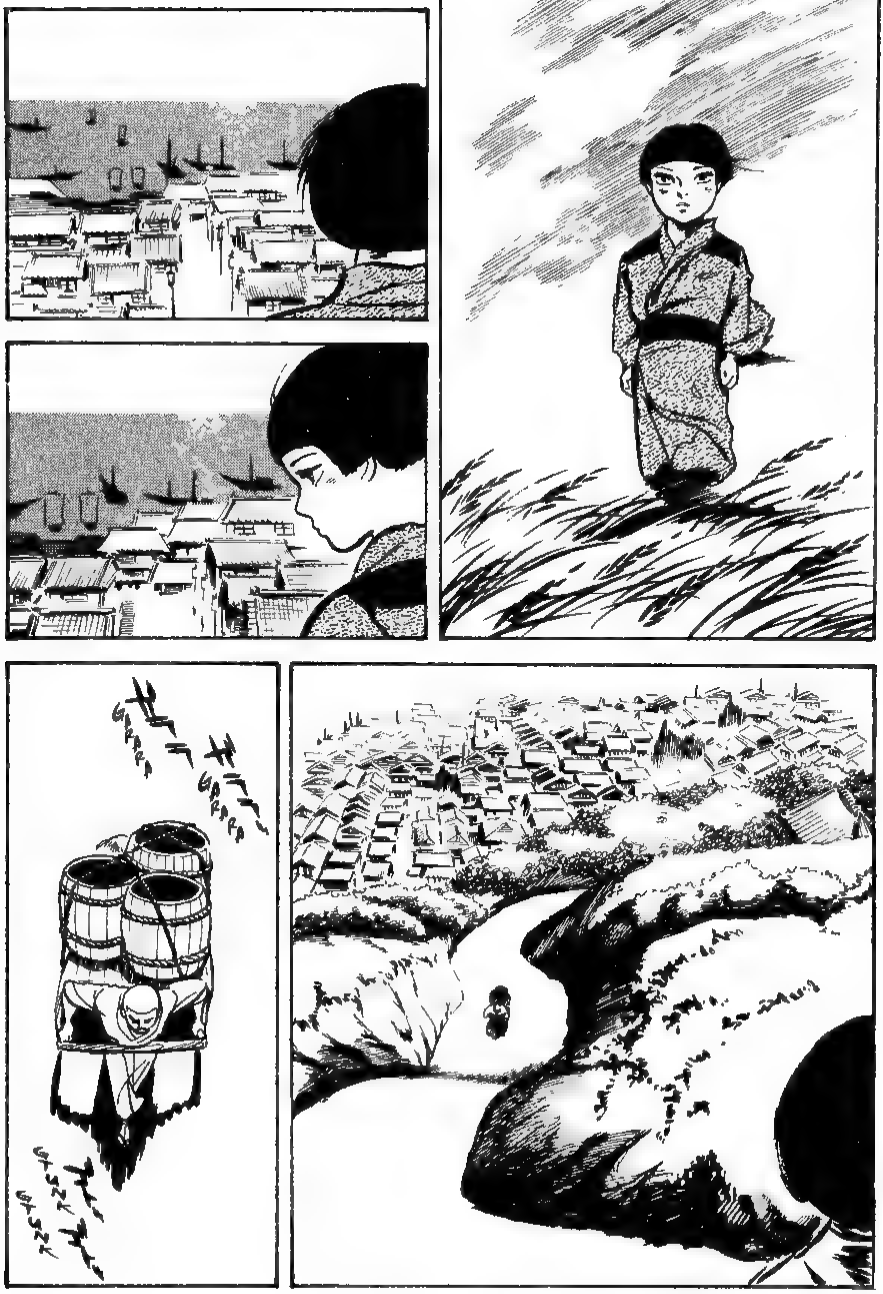
"I HEARD IT WAS SNOWING THAT DAY
"MY MOTHER SAYO KASHIMA WAS A PRISONER OF TOKYO PRISON, HACHIOJI BRANCH— WITH A LIFE SENTENCE

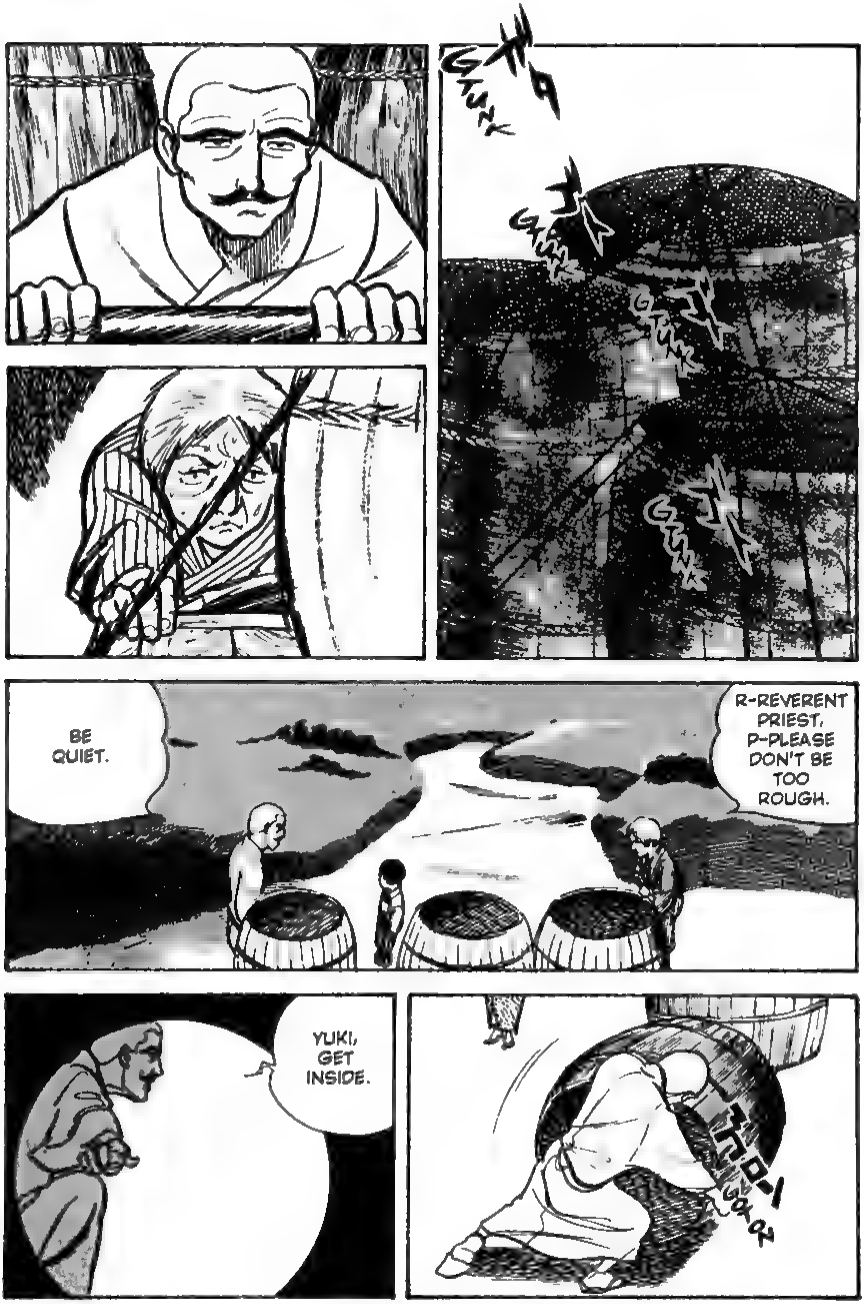
"TO BEAR ME-- TO DELIVER A BABY IN THE PRISON-- MY MOTHER SEDUCED MONKS AND PRISON GUARDS.
"KNOWING SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE PRISON ALIVE, SHE ENTRUSTED HER VENGEANCE TO ME. IN A WAY, I'M A PHANTOM OF MY MOTHER, NOT HER DAUGHTER.
"I WAS BORN INTO THIS WORLD AS A VEHICLE OF THE KASHIMA FAMILY'S REVENGE

"A CHILD OF HELL, BORN IN A PRISON ON A SNOWY DAY.
"LADY SNOW-BLOOD..."

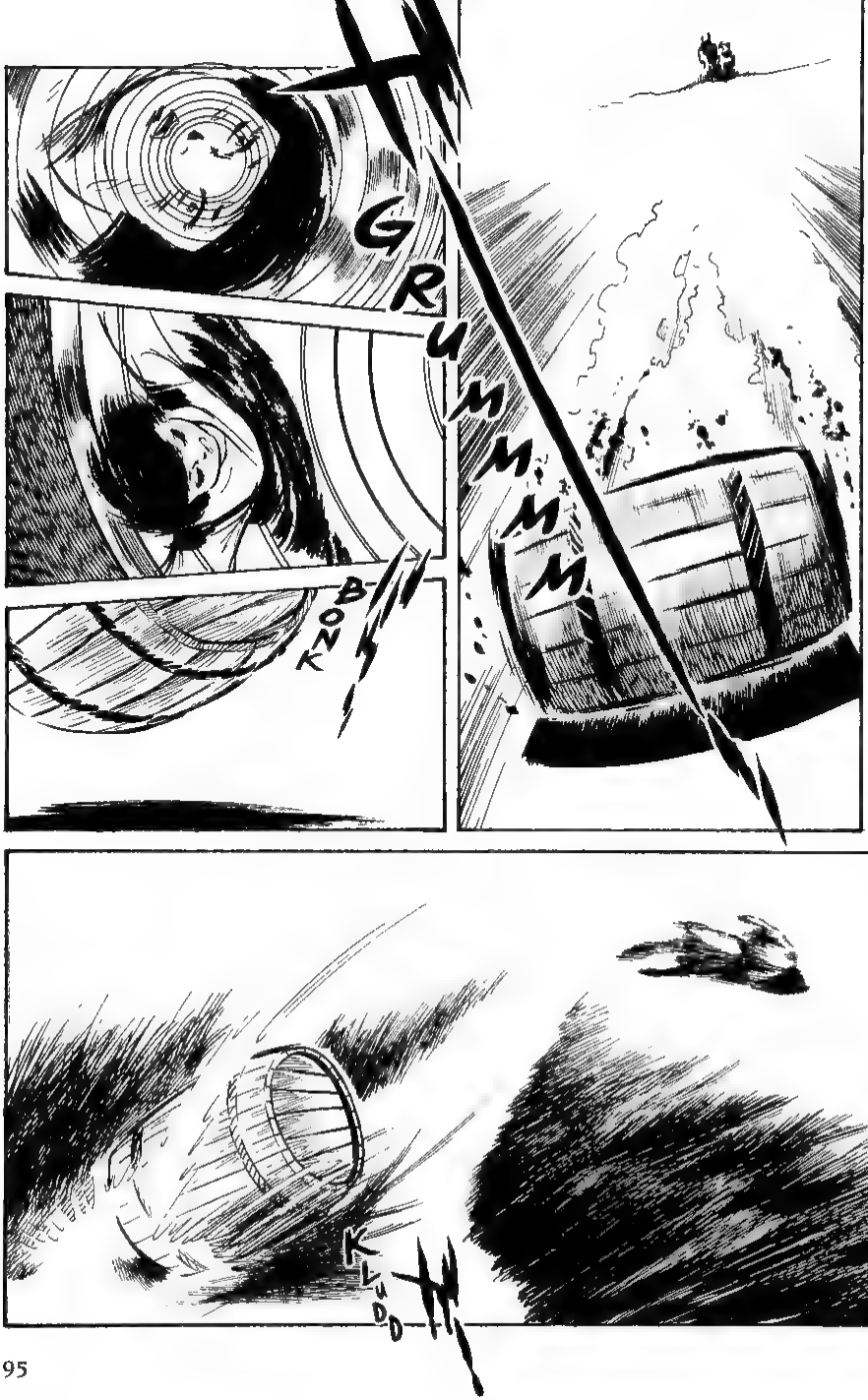
東京女囚携帯乳児
TOKYO FEMALE PRISONER'S INFANT CARE ASSOCIATION
THIS ASSOCIATION WAS ESTABLISHED ON JUNE 14, 1874. THE INFANTS TO BE RETURNED IN THE COMING YEAR ARE:
ISHIKAWA'S GIRL OF HARUKI-CHO, HONGO-KU, TOKYO.
SATO'S GIRL OF HIGASHI-MOTOMACHI, FUKAGAWA-KU, TOKYO.
YUKI KASHIMA OF SHINAGAWA-CHO, SHIMOEBARA, TOKYO.

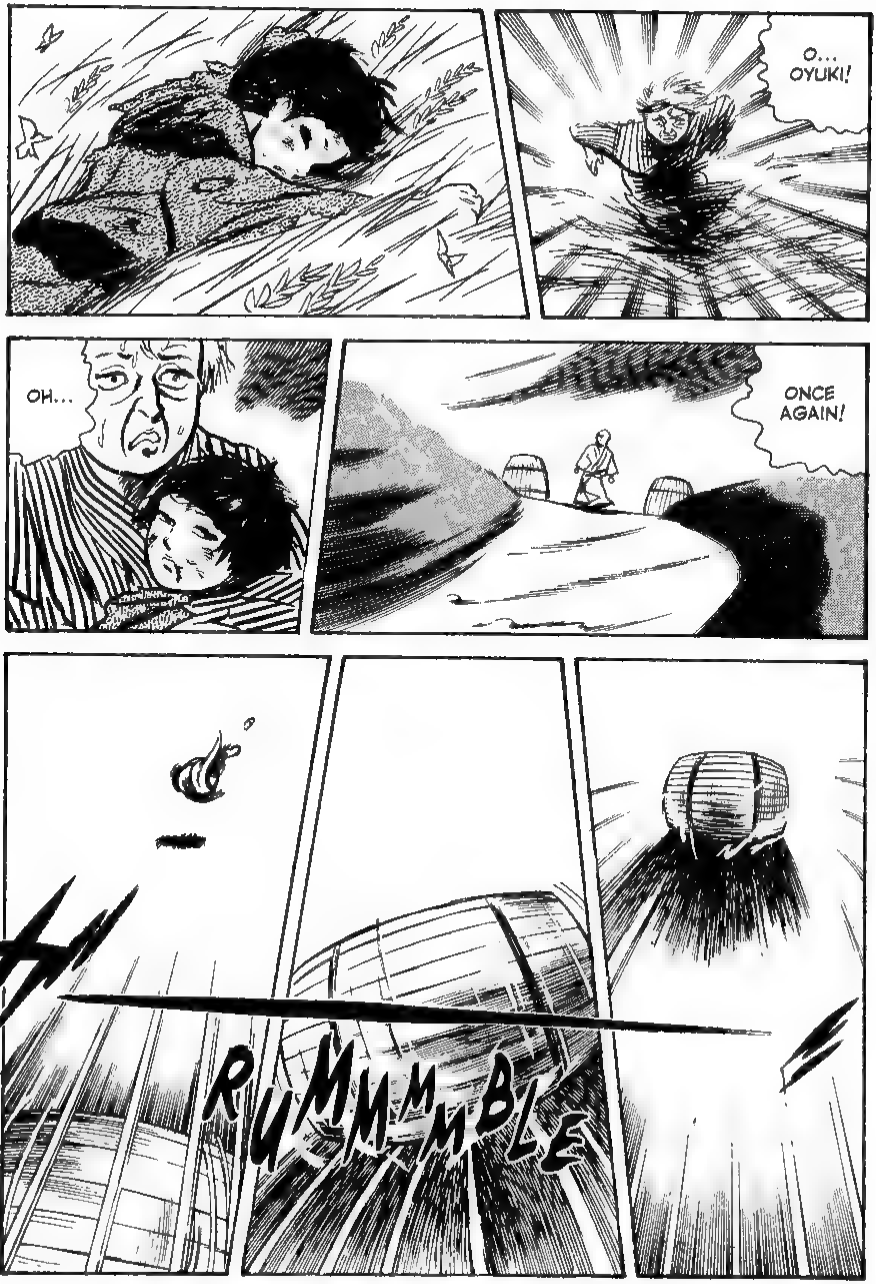
"I WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY OTORA MIKAZUKI AFTER SHE WAS DISCHARGED FROM THE SAME PRISON WHERE MY MOTHER DIED."




GTUNK
GTUNK
GTUNK
GTUNK
BE QUIET.
R-REVERENT PRIEST, P-PLEASE DON'T BE TOO ROUGH.
YUKI, GET INSIDE.
ITAI-!

O...
...OYU-KI...
YES.
YES.
PUSH YOUR HANDS AND LEGS HARD AGAINST THE WALL INSIDE.
LISTEN, YOU MUST NOT LET YOURSELF BE THROWN OUT OF THIS BARREL.
Y...
YES.
SHUT UP. YOU'RE NOT TO MEDDLE WITH WHAT I DO. YOU'VE AGREED, REMEMBER?!
R-REVERENT *BONZE*... THAT'S--
KYAAA


GRUMMMM
BONK
KLUDD


O... OYUKI!
OH...
ONCE AGAIN!
RUMMMMBLE

AGAIN! YOU MUST NOT BE THROWN OUT UNTIL THE BARREL ROLLS ALL THE WAY DOWN THE SLOPE AND COMES TO A STOP.
WE'LL REPEAT THIS OVER AND OVER.
GRUMBBB

IT... IT MUST HURT... F-FORGIVE ME, OYUKI. I LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU.
BUT I PROMISED YOUR MOTHER I WOULD HELP YOU BECOME STRONG.
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE GONNA GET ANY STRONGER DOING THAT.
IT'S JUST THAT... REPEATING THE SAME TORTURE, DAY AFTER DAY...I KNOW THE PRIEST USED TO BE A *KENJUTSU* WARRIOR OF THE *SHOGUNATE*.

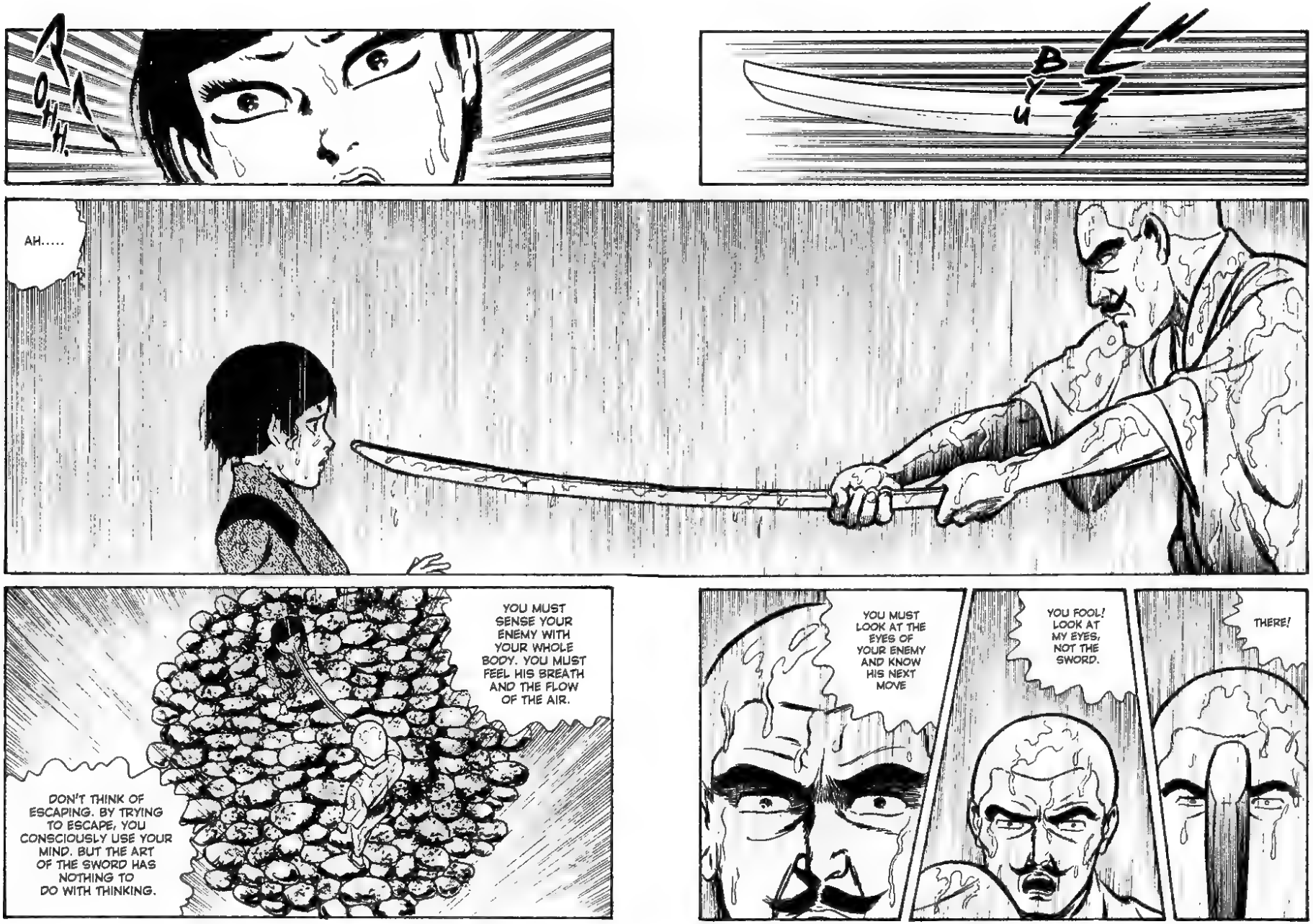
ニヤ
本家

GATHER AS MANY LARGE, ROUND STONES AS YOU CAN AND PLACE THEM TIGHTLY WITHIN THIS CIRCLE

YOU MUST STAY INSIDE AND DODGE MY WOODEN SWORD. EVEN IF I STRIKE YOU, YOU MUST STAY INSIDE.
YUKI, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, DON'T STEP OUT OF THIS STONE RING UNDERSTAND?
READY ...?
Y... YES...

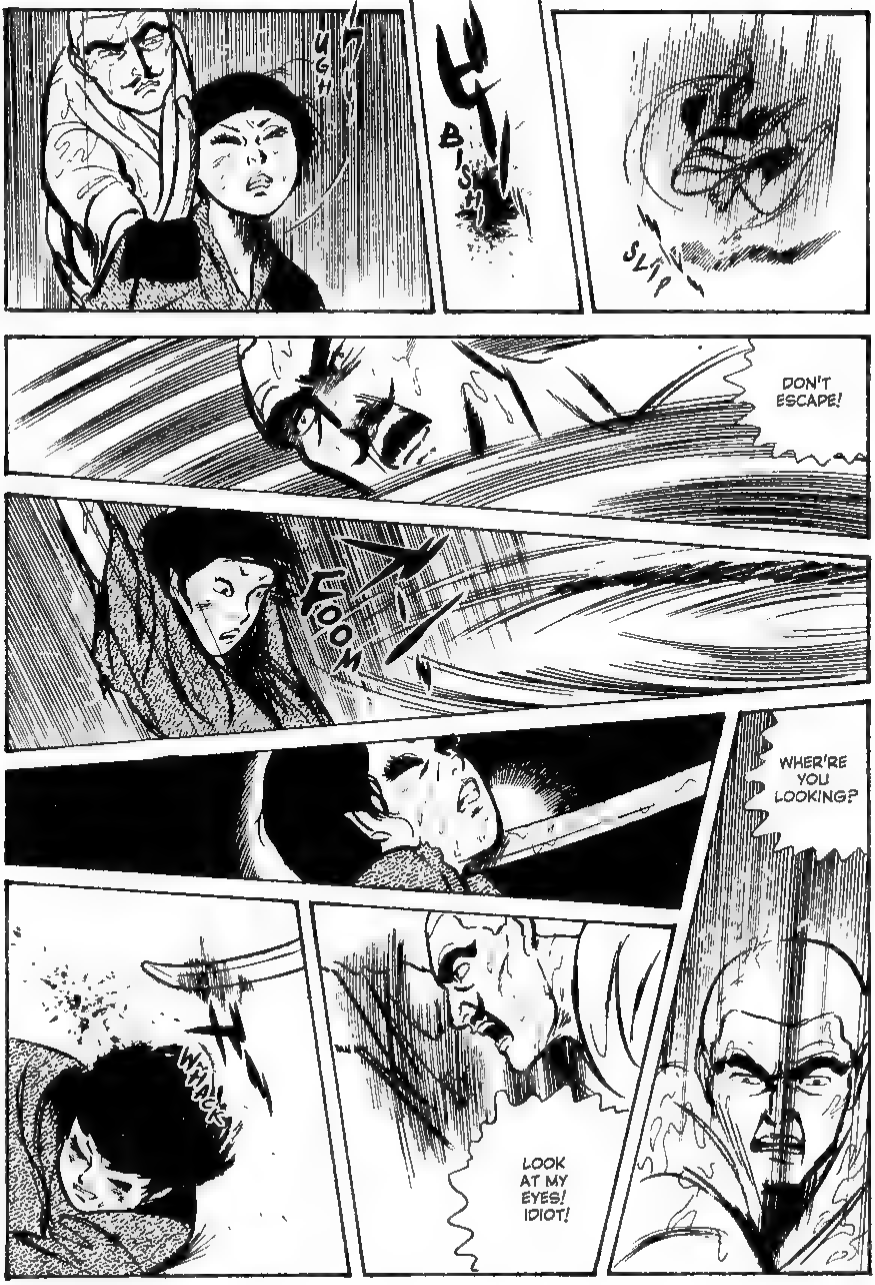
WSSST
SWOOP!
COMPOSE YOURSELF. I WILL STRIKE YOU FOR REAL THE NEXT TIME.

BYU
AHHH.

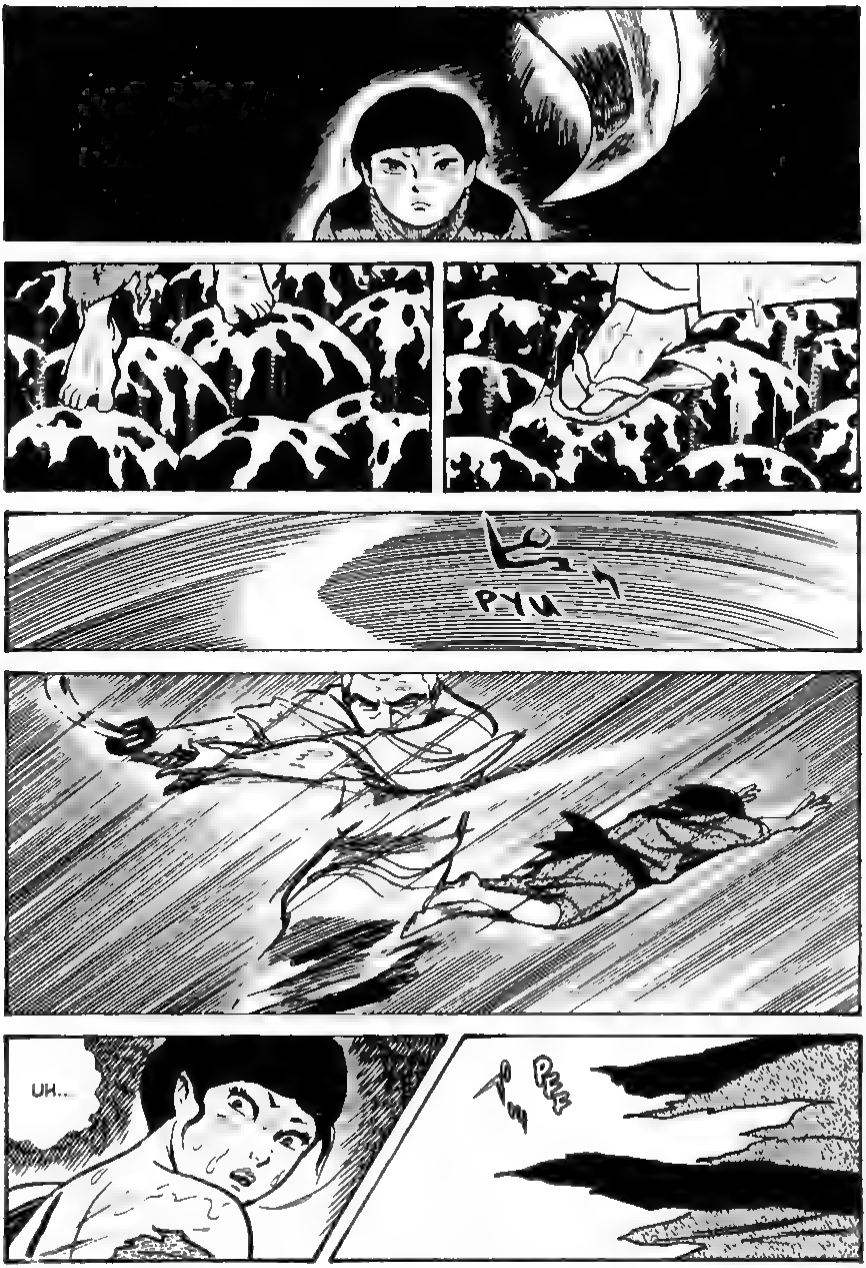

AH.....
YOU MUST SENSE YOUR ENEMY WITH YOUR WHOLE BODY. YOU MUST FEEL HIS BREATH AND THE FLOW OF THE AIR.
DON'T THINK OF ESCAPING. BY TRYING TO ESCAPE, YOU CONSCIOUSLY USE YOUR MIND. BUT THE ART OF THE SWORD HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THINKING.
YOU MUST LOOK AT THE EYES OF YOUR ENEMY AND KNOW HIS NEXT MOVE
YOU FOOL! LOOK AT MY EYES, NOT THE SWORD.
THERE!

...
...
DO YOU UNDER-STAND, YUKI?
YOU MUST SENSE HOW YOUR ENEMY MOVES AND REACT UNCON-SCIOUSLY.
...
...
IT MAY BE UNREASONABLE FOR ME TO EXPECT A CHILD LIKE YOU TO UNDERSTAND, BUT I'M SURE THAT SOMEDAY YOU'LL GET IT--NOT CONSCIOUSLY, BUT INSTINCTIVELY.
THE REASON WHY I ROLL YOU DOWN IN A BARREL AND MAKE YOU STAND INSIDE THIS RING IS BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO LEARN TO FEEL IT--TO GET THE SENSE OF HOW A SWORD MOVES
I'M TRAINING YOU TO SHARPEN YOUR INSTINCT.
UNDER-STAND?
TO LEARN HOW BEASTS MOVE...
...YOU MUST BECOME A BEAST YOURSELF.
YES.

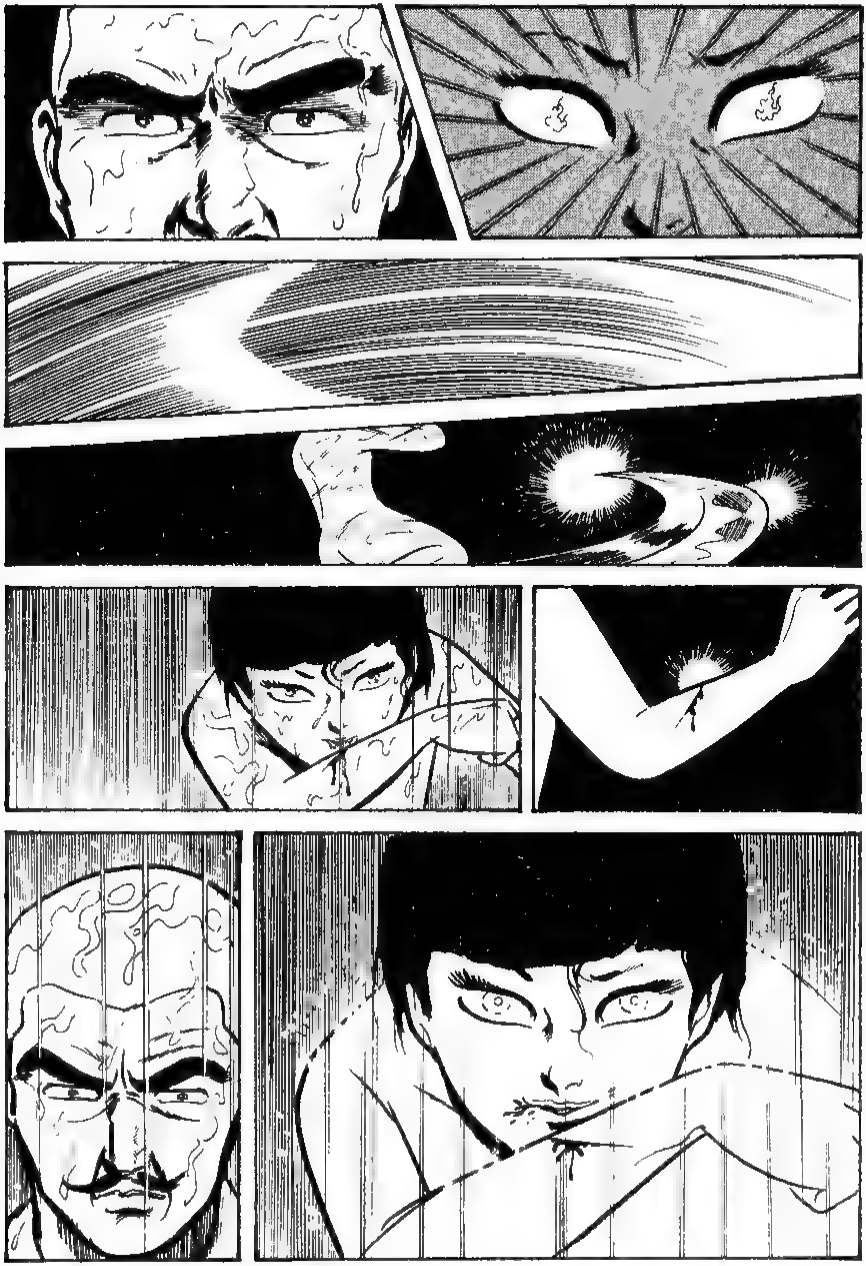
YES.
READY?


UGH
BISH
SLIP
DON'T ESCAPE!
FOOM
WHER'RE YOU LOOKING?
WHACK
LOOK AT MY EYES! IDIOT!

KUNK
BAM
WHACK
SRSSH


PYU
UH...

DON'T LOOK AT THE SWORD. LOOK AT MY EYES!

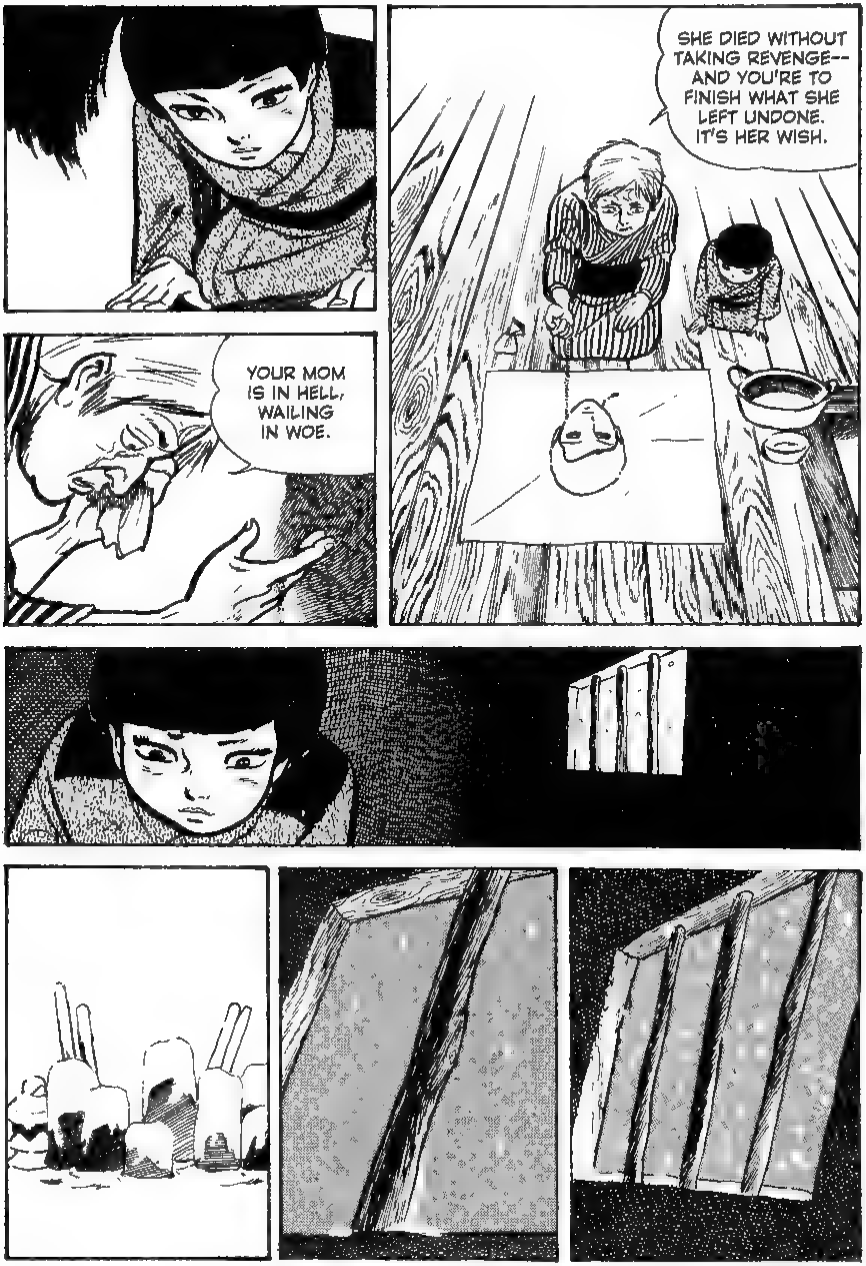


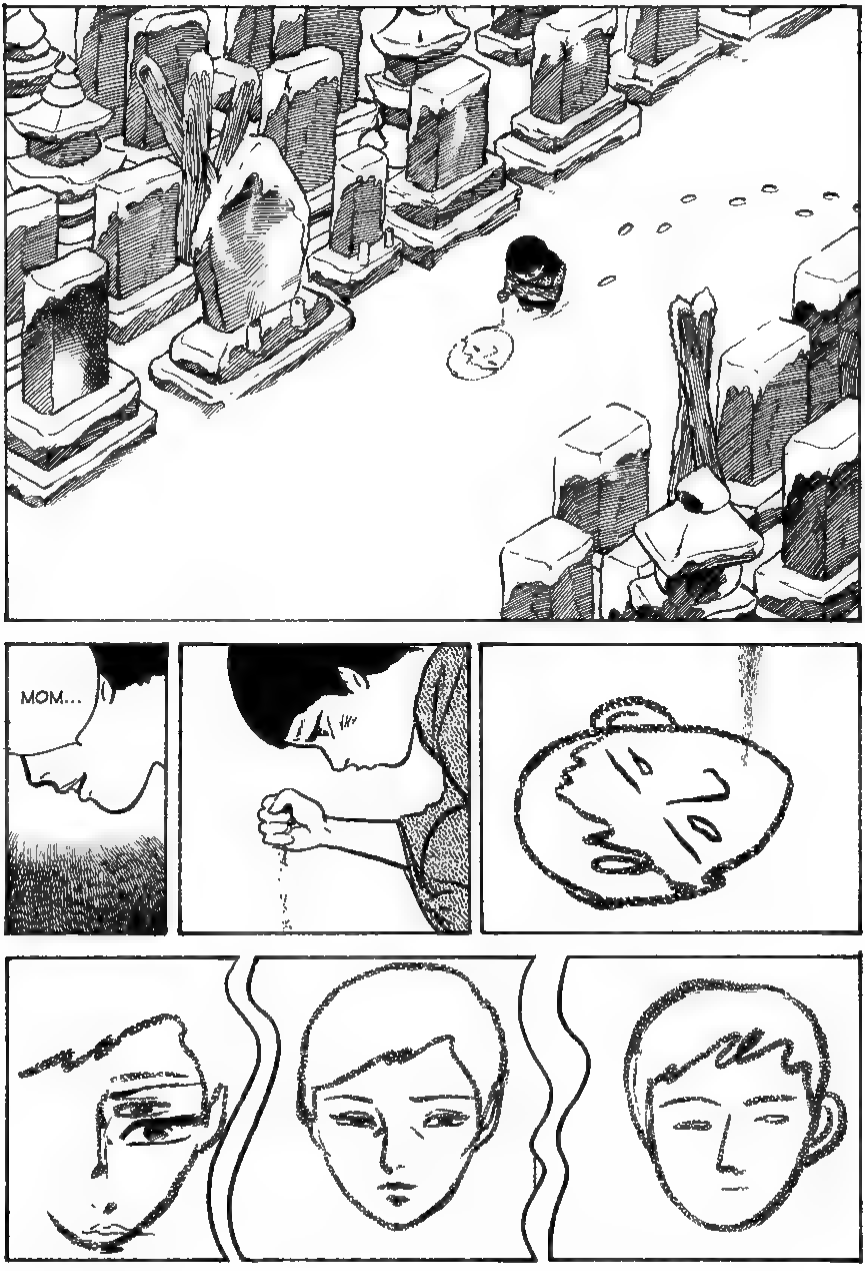
GR-UM-M-M-BBB

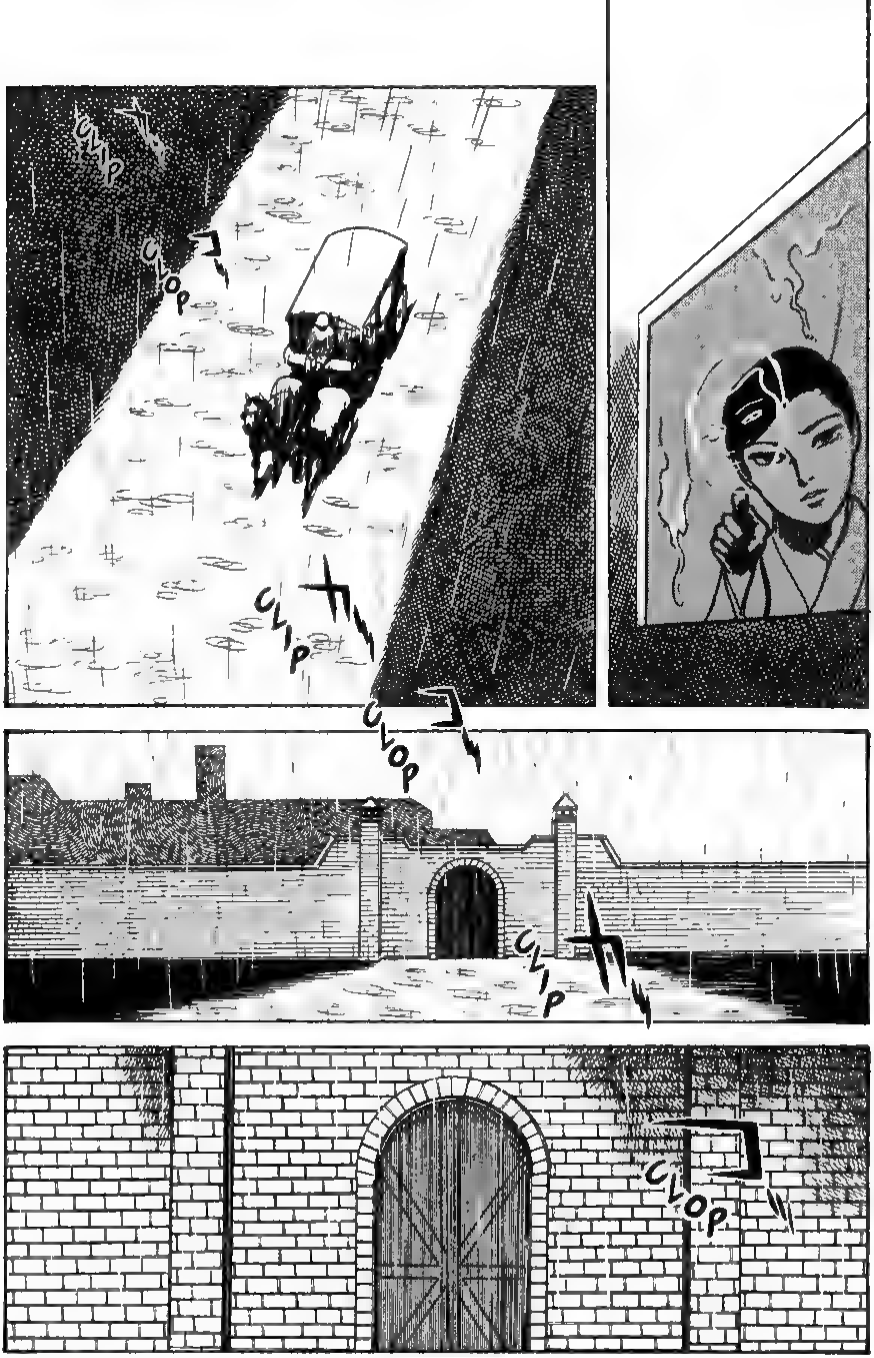
BRMMM
NOW!
KRAKK

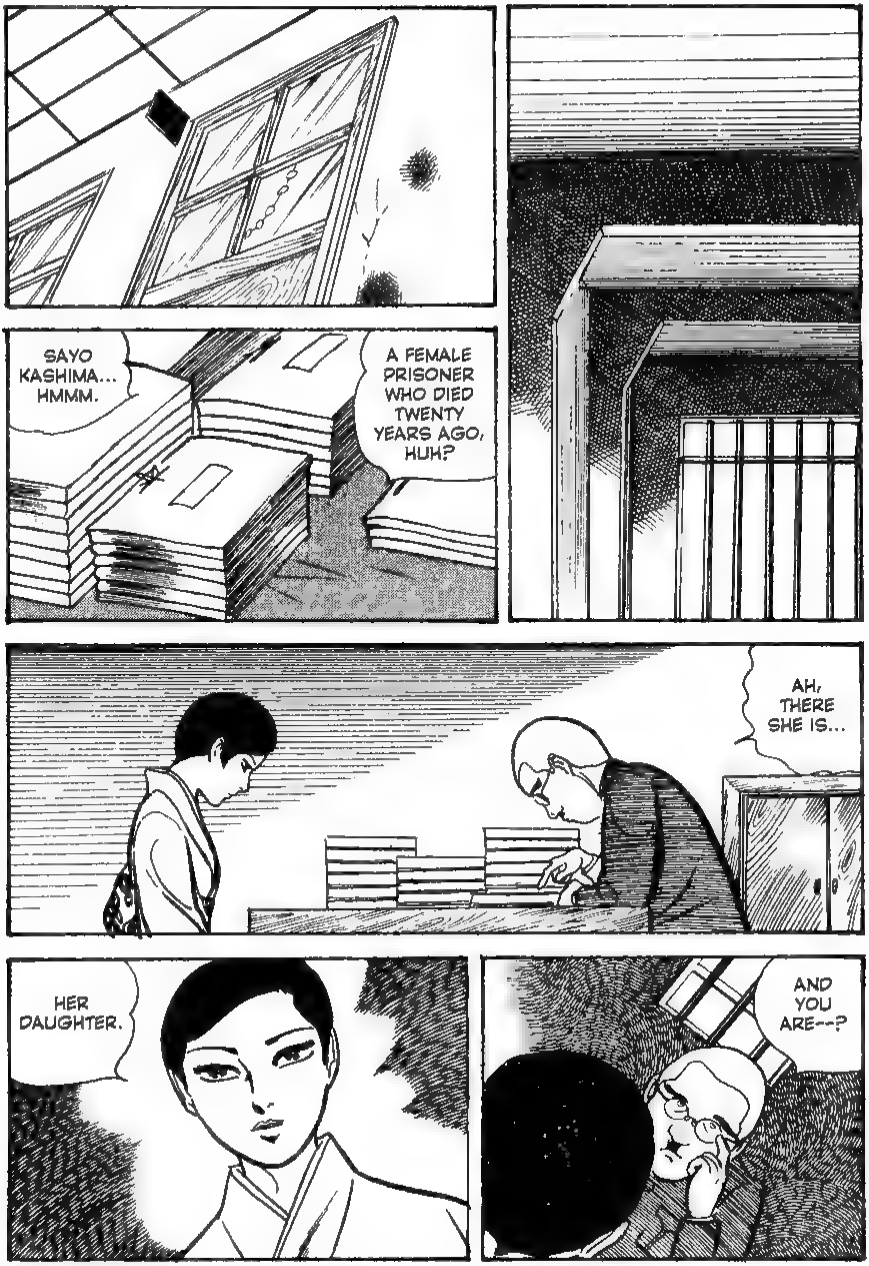
GOOD.

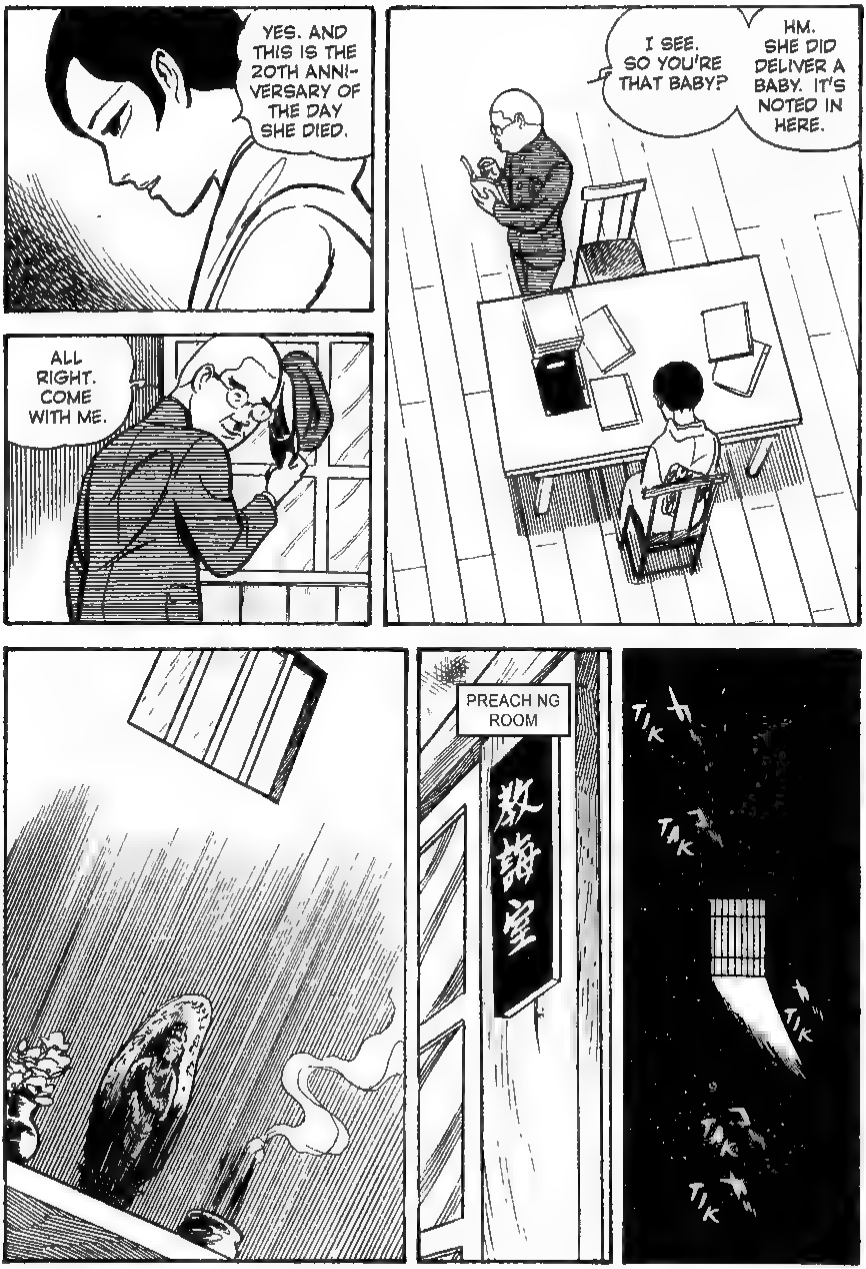
THIS IS YOUR MOM.
SOB
SOB
THIS IS HOW SAD SHE USED TO LOOK.

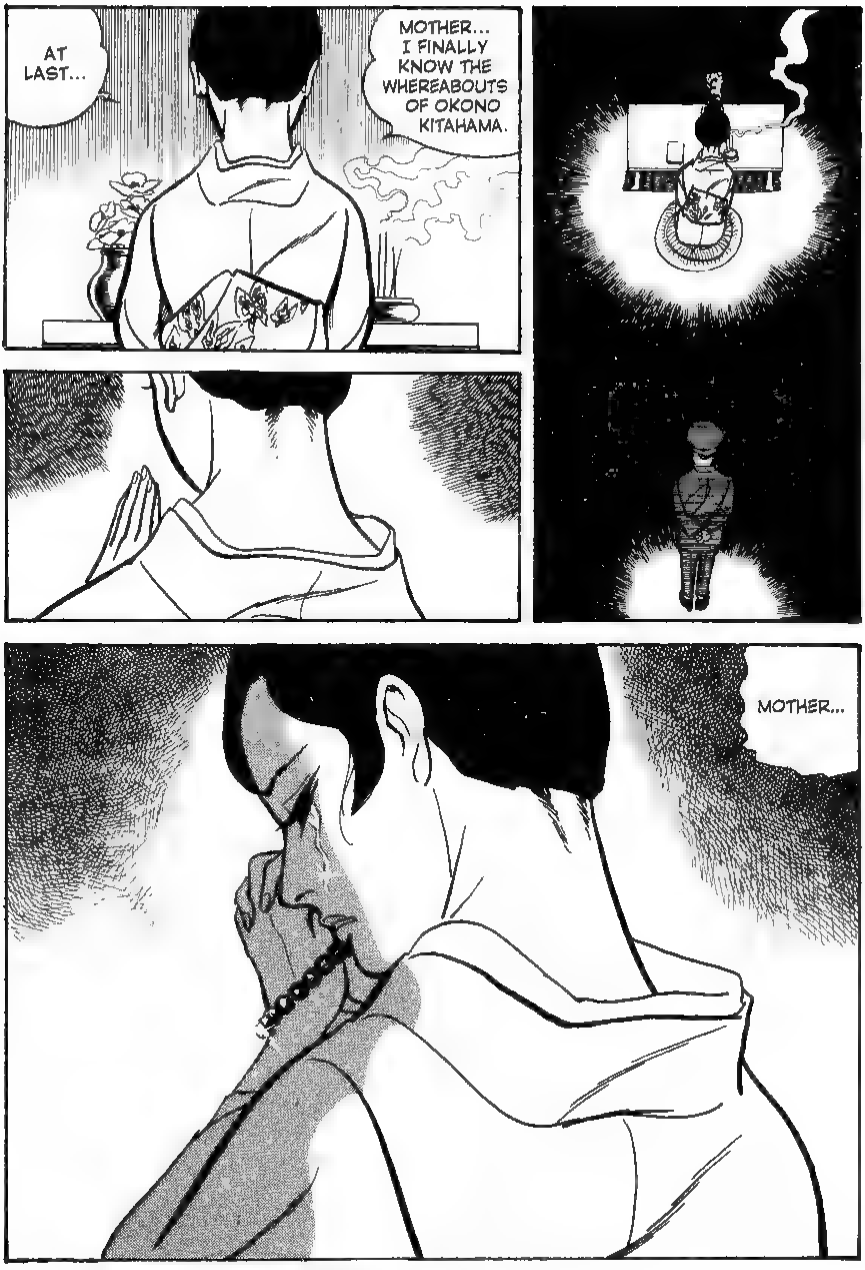

SHE DIED WITHOUT TAKING REVENGE-- AND YOU'RE TO FINISH WHAT SHE LEFT UNDONE. IT'S HER WISH.
YOUR MOM IS IN HELL, WAILING IN WOE.


MOM...


CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP


SAYO KASHIMA... HMMM.
A FEMALE PRISONER WHO DIED TWENTY YEARS AGO, HUH?
AH, THERE SHE IS...
HER DAUGHTER.
AND YOU ARE---?

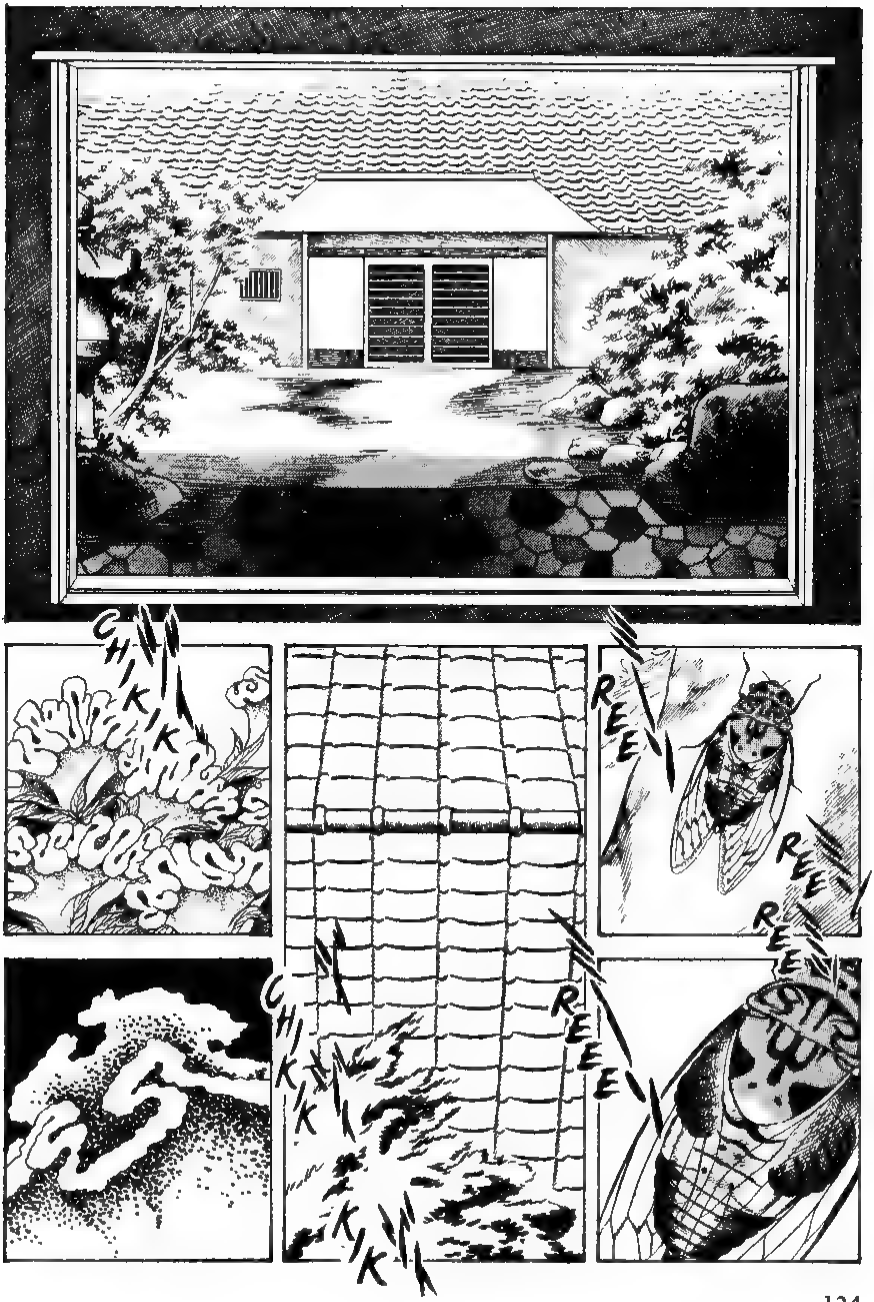

YES. AND THIS IS THE 20TH ANNI-VERSARY OF THE DAY SHE DIED.
I SEE. SO YOU'RE THAT BABY?
HM. SHE DID DELIVER A BABY. IT'S NOTED IN HERE.
ALL RIGHT. COME WITH ME.
PREACH NG ROOM
TIK
TAK
TIK
TAK
TIK

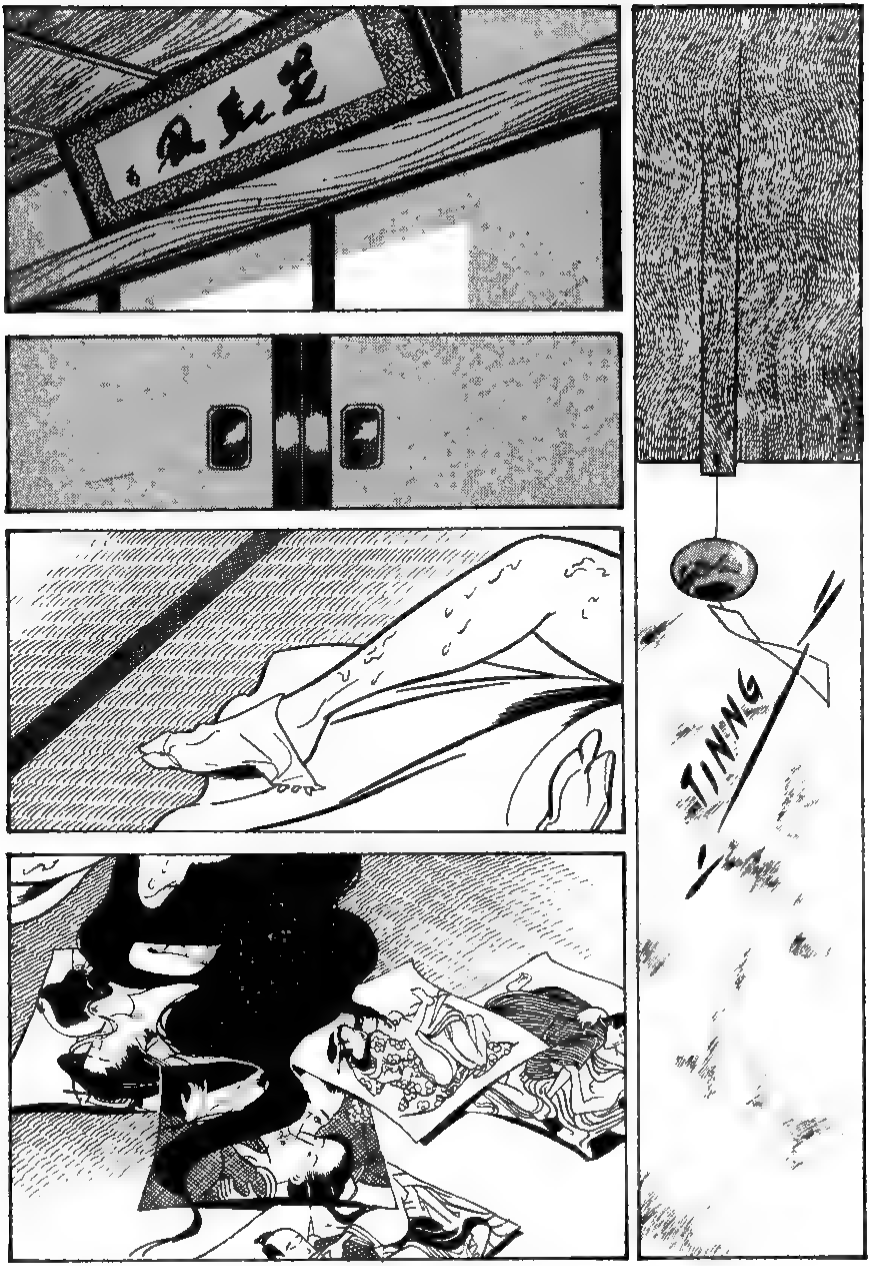

AT LAST...
MOTHER... I FINALLY KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF OKONO KITAHAMA.
MOTHER...

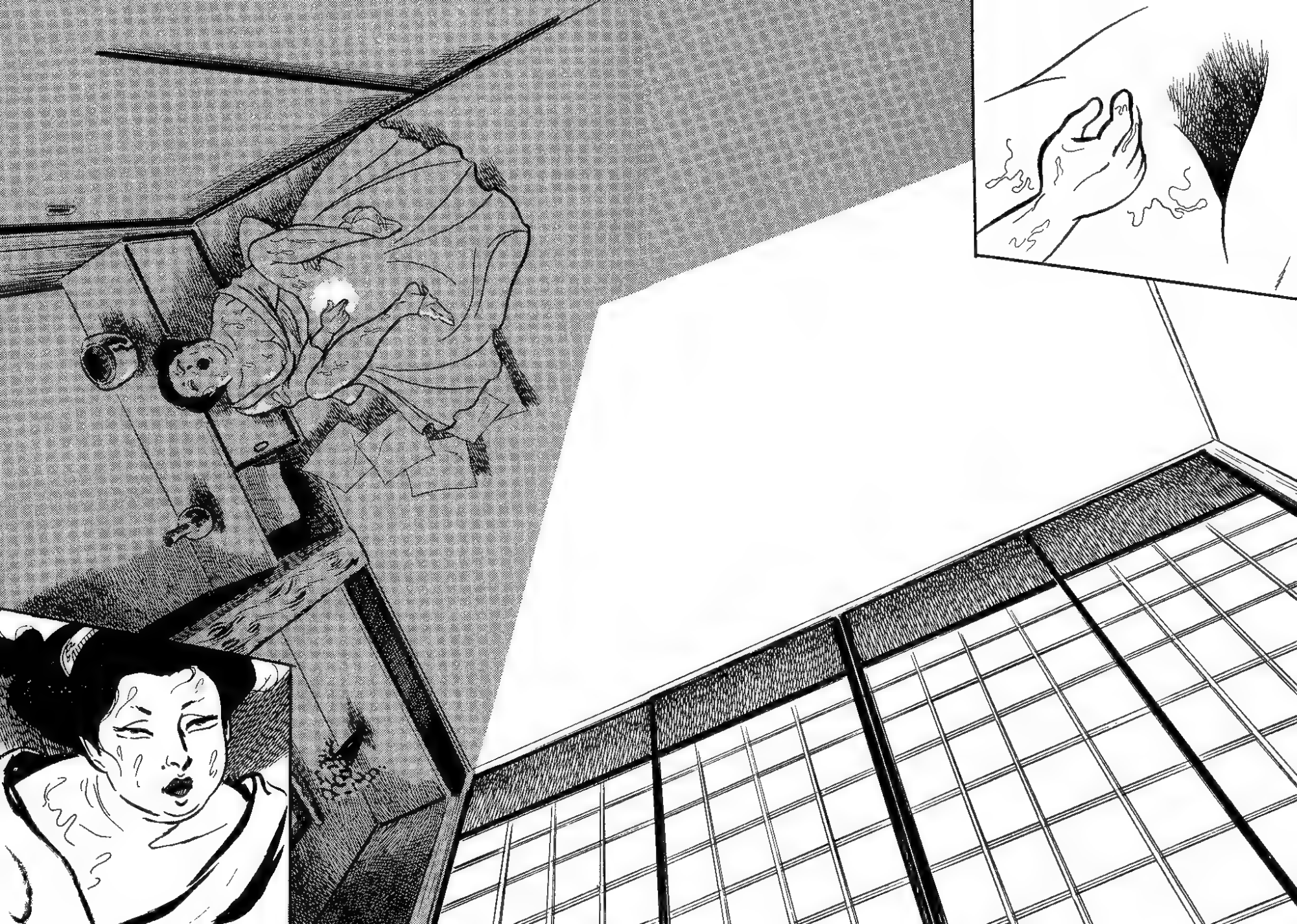
外題之八 生命質屋無残始末

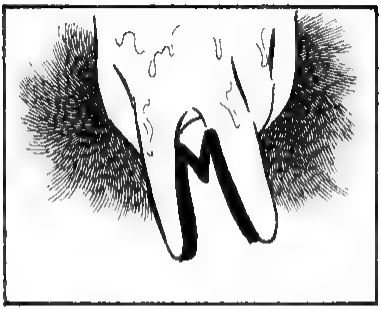
(いのちのしちやむざんし)

EPISODE 8
PAWNSHOP
OF LIFE AND
MERCILESS
DISPOSAL

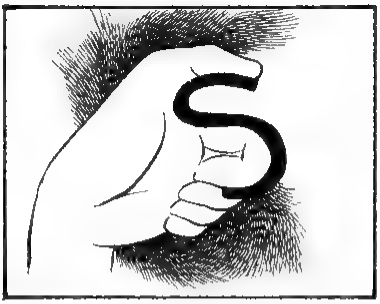

CHIKIKIKI
REEE
REEE
REEE
CHIKIKIKI
REEE
SIZU

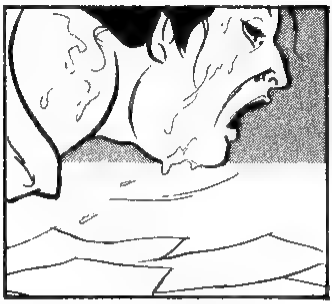

TINNG

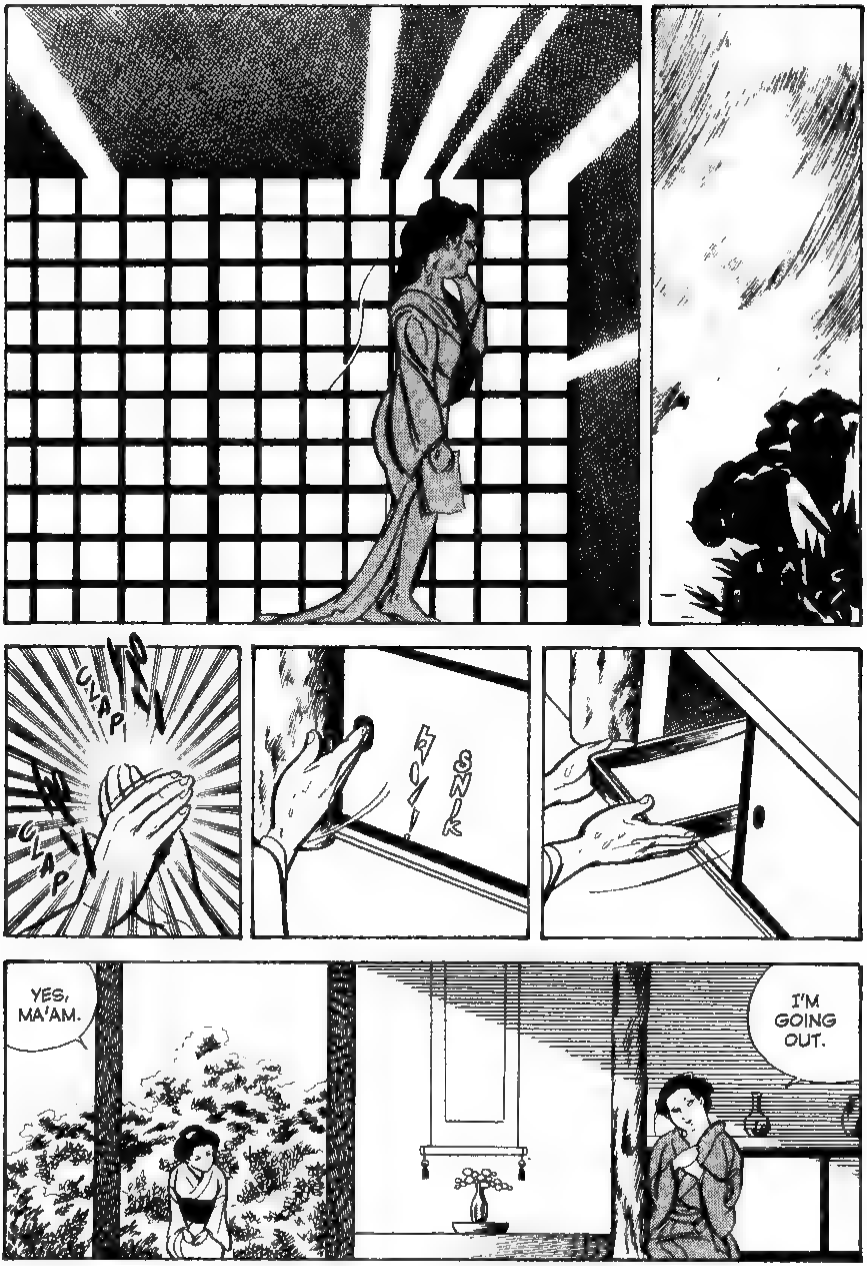




FEMALE MASTURBATION WAS CALLED *MASUNOURA* IN THE SLANG OF THIS TIME THEY MUST HAVE ASSOCIATED THE FAMOUS PINE FOREST VIEW OF *MASUNOURA* WITH A VAGINA. FURTHER ANALYSIS ALSO POINTS TO THE FACT THAT THE "MAS" PART OF "MASTURBATION" SOUNDS LIKE "MASU" AND THAT WOMEN'S HANDS FORM A "MAS"-LIKE SHAPE WHEN THEY RUB THEMSELVES.

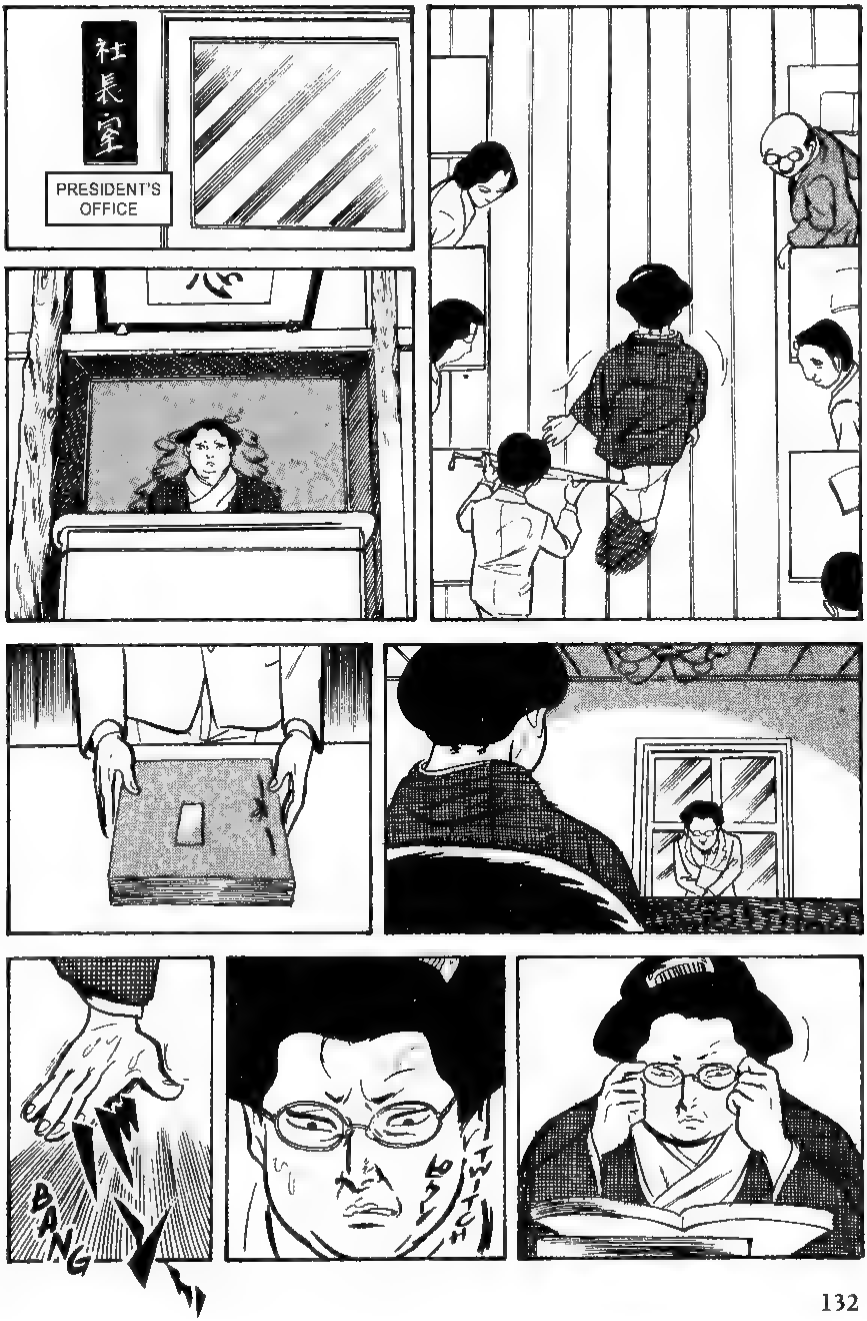


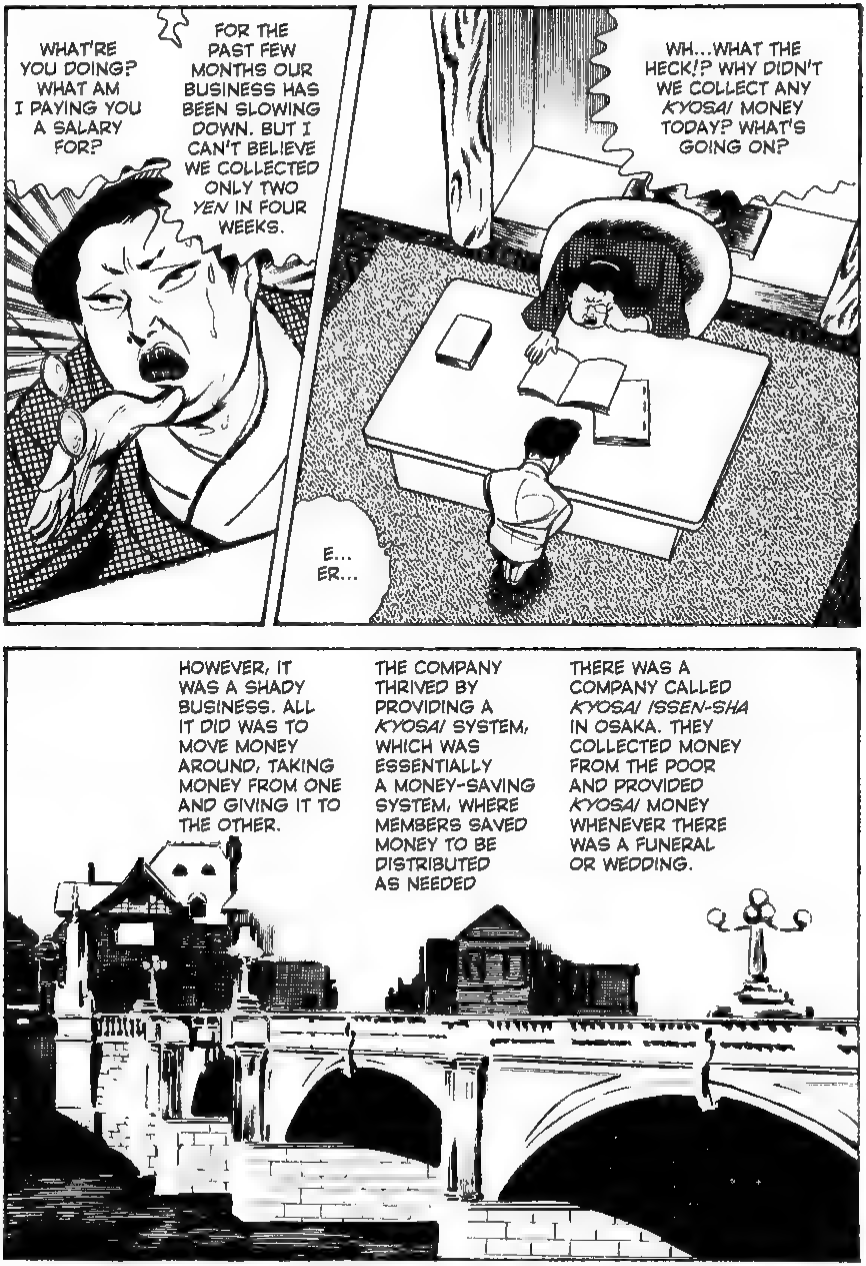



CLAP
CLAP
SNIK
YES, MA'AM.
I'M GOING OUT.

TRAIN
ライ!

大阪市西区
新町南通り三丁目
3-CHOME,
MINAMIDOORI,
SHIN-MACHI NISHI-KU,
OSAKA
共済一銭社
共済一銭社
KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA

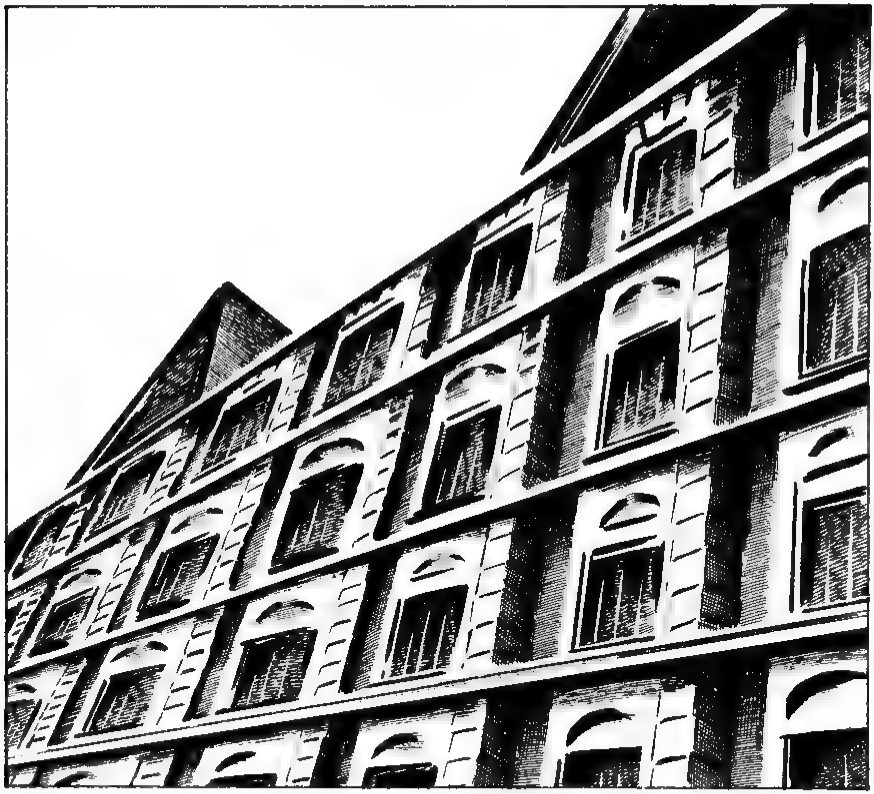

社長室
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
BANG
TWITCH

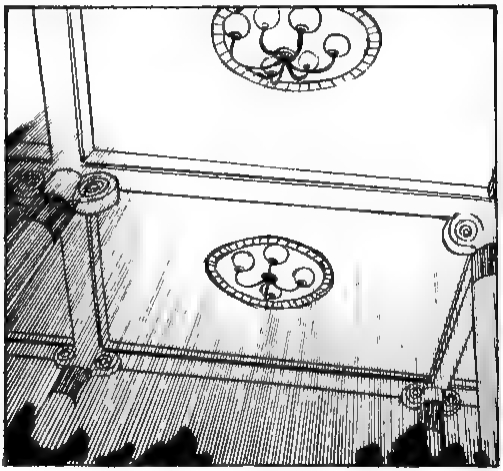

WHAT'RE YOU DOING? WHAT AM I PAYING YOU A SALARY FOR?
FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS OUR BUSINESS HAS BEEN SLOWING DOWN. BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE WE COLLECTED ONLY TWO YEN IN FOUR WEEKS.
WH...WHAT THE HECK!? WHY DIDN'T WE COLLECT ANY KYOSAI MONEY TODAY? WHAT'S GOING ON?
E... ER...
HOWEVER, IT WAS A SHADY BUSINESS. ALL IT DID WAS TO MOVE MONEY AROUND, TAKING MONEY FROM ONE AND GIVING IT TO THE OTHER.
THE COMPANY THRIVED BY PROVIDING A KYOSAI SYSTEM, WHICH WAS ESSENTIALLY A MONEY-SAVING SYSTEM, WHERE MEMBERS SAVED MONEY TO BE DISTRIBUTED AS NEEDED
THERE WAS A COMPANY CALLED KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA IN OSAKA. THEY COLLECTED MONEY FROM THE POOR AND PROVIDED KYOSAI MONEY WHENEVER THERE WAS A FUNERAL OR WEDDING.

WHAT'S GOING ON, YOU ROTTEN MORON?!
THE COMPANY USED THE NAME "*KYOSAI*" TO SOUND LIKE A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, BUT IN REALITY, THEY SWINDLED MONEY. A WOMAN NAMED OKONO FUJISHIMA CAME UP WITH THE SCHEME AND BECAME THE PRESIDENT OF *KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA*, BUT NO ONE KNEW WHERE SHE CAME FROM OR WHAT SHE DID IN THE PAST.
共済一銭社
A LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY? WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
E-ER, MS. PRESIDENT... TH-THE FACT IS, A SO-CALLED LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY HAS COME TO TO--
SO? WHAT ABOUT THEM?
FROM WHAT I HEAR, IT'S A BIG COMPANY WITH HEADQUARTERS IN TOKYO. THE COMPANY NAME IS MEIJITSU LIFE.

WHAT THE HELL!? THEY GIVE YOU A LUMP SUM IF YOU DIE? WHAT'S THE POINT?
W-WELL, THEY COLLECT SO-CALLED INSURANCE MONEY FROM THEIR MEMBERS EVERY MONTH, AND WHEN A MEMBER DIES, THEY PAY OUT A LARGE SUM OF MONEY.
WE ALL AGREE WITH YOU, BUT THEY'RE DOING SUCH GREAT BUSINESS THAT WE CAN'T COMPETE. ALL OF OUR KYOSAI MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR THEM.
THAT'S INSANE...
BASICALLY, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FAMILY, YOU GET LIFE INSURANCE JUST IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU.
THEY'RE ALL GETTING FOOLED.
THAT'S A FRAUD!

PAYING MONEY EVERY MONTH FOR DECADE AFTER DECADE UNTIL YOU DIE? THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
ALL RIGHT!
LEMME LOOK INTO THIS SO-CALLED LIFE INSURANCE AND I'LL STRIP OFF THEIR PRETTY LIES!
GET ME THE GUYS FROM TENNOJI FAMILY.
GARARA
GARARA
GARARA

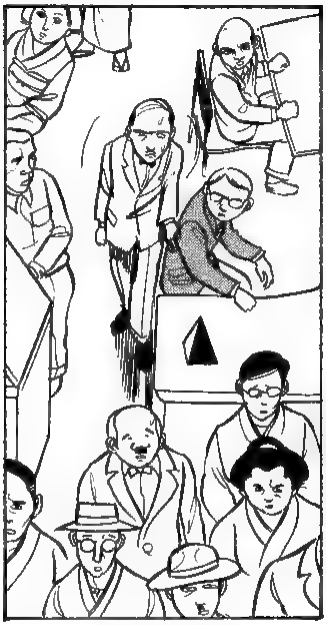


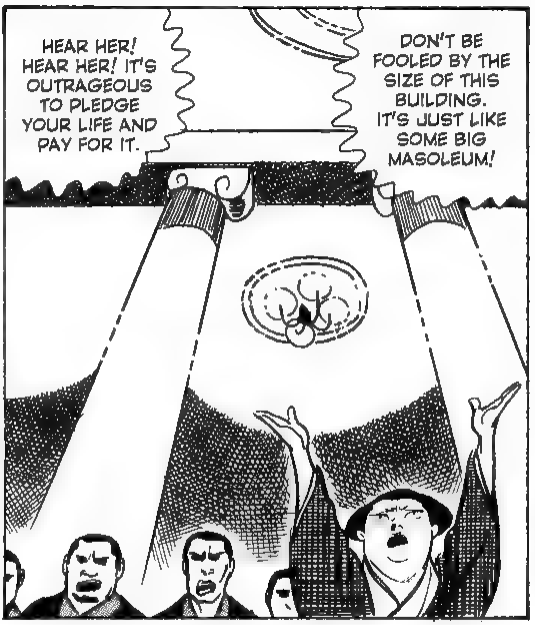


MEIJITSU LIFE
明実生命

HEY, GET OUTTA THE WAY!
DON'T BE FOOLED, EVERYONE! LIFE INSURANCE IS LIKE PAWNING YOUR OWN LIVES AWAY.
YEAH!
YEAH!
BAP

IN COMPARISON, OUR KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA IS HERE FOR YOUR MUTUAL AID AND BENEFIT.
LIFE INSURANCE IS LIKE MURDERING PEOPLE. THE COMPANY IS GETTING YOU TO PUT YOUR LIVES IN PAWN. YOU SHOULDN'T JOIN SUCH A COMPANY!



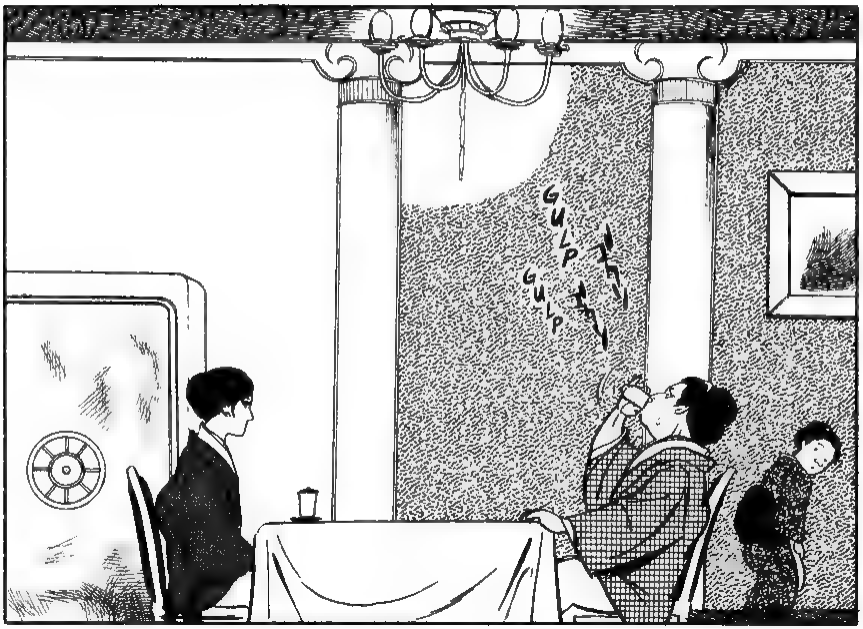

HEAR HER! HEAR HER! IT'S OUTRAGEOUS TO PLEDGE YOUR LIFE AND PAY FOR IT.
DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE SIZE OF THIS BUILDING. IT'S JUST LIKE SOME BIG MASOLEUM!

WILL YOU PLEASE CALM DOWN? AND LET US PROPERLY EXPLAIN.
WHAM!
I AM OKONO FUJISHIMA OF KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA. LET ME SEE THE MAN IN CHARGE HERE!
I AM THE ONE IN CHARGE.
SKRIIT

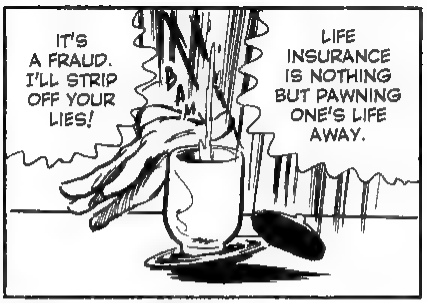
M.
M.

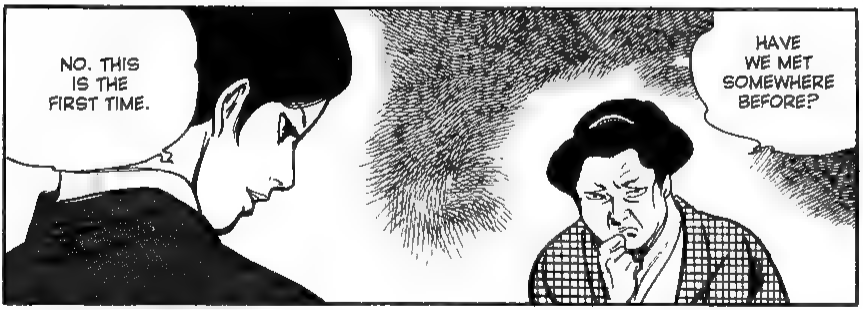
I AM YUKI KASHIMA, THE BRANCH MANAGER.

I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A GOOD TALK WITH YOU.
THIS WAY, PLEASE.
...
PLEASE, MS. OKONO FUJISHIMA. THIS WAY.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FOOL ME!
支店長室
BRANCH MANAGER


GULP
GULP
GULP

...?


IT'S A FRAUD. I'LL STRIP OFF YOUR LIES!
LIFE INSURANCE IS NOTHING BUT PAWNING ONE'S LIFE AWAY.

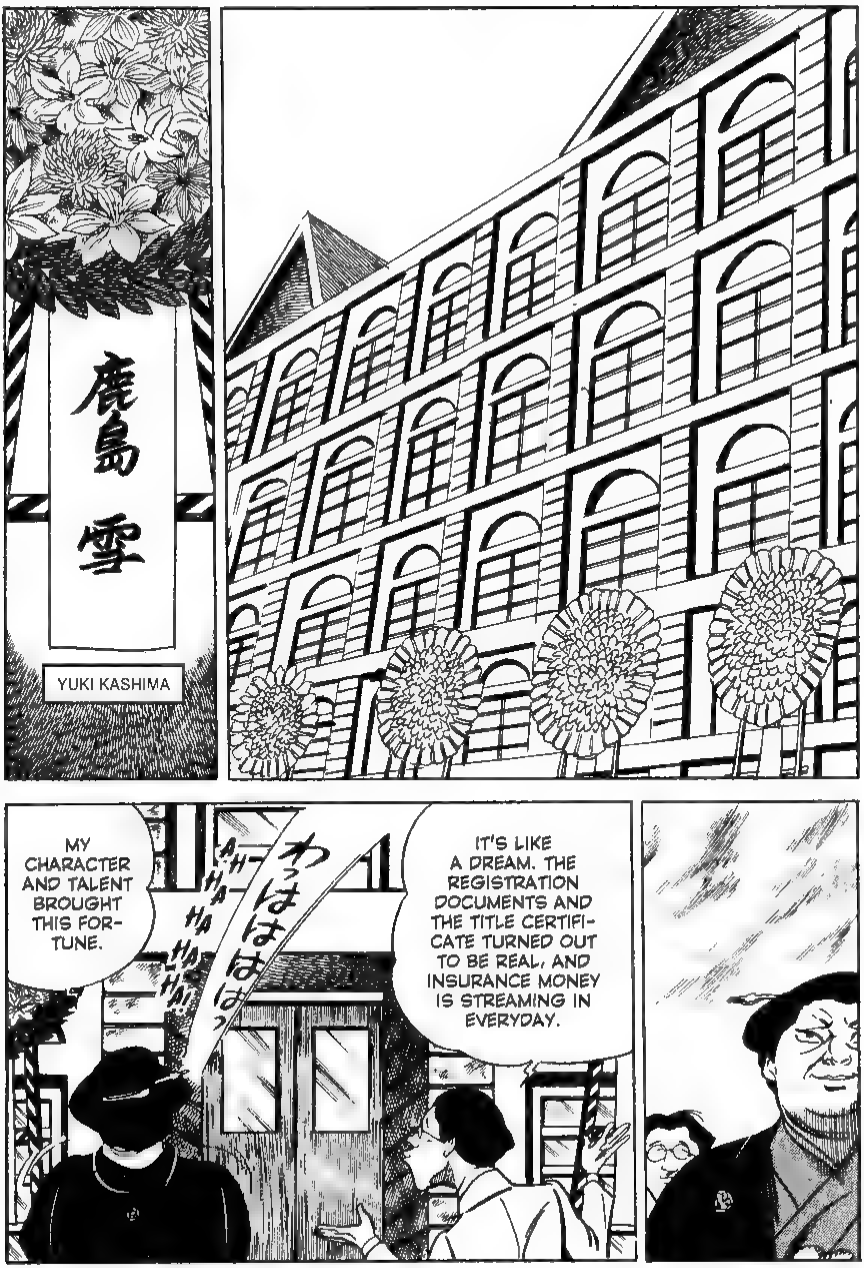

NO. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME.
HAVE WE MET SOMEWHERE BEFORE?

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT THAT!? HUH?
BECAUSE OF YOUR SO-CALLED LIFE INSURANCE, KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA, MY COMPANY WITH HONEST BUSINESS, IS ABOUT TO GO BANKRUPT!
I HAVE A FEELING I MET YOU LONG AGO...OH WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
...
...
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME. I'VE GOT LOADS OF BACKERS IN MY CORNER. IF I WANT, IT'S EASY TO CRUSH A SHOP LIKE YOURS.
TOSS
T

CREEAK
THIS IS FOR YOU. I APOLOGIZE FOR CAUSING YOU TROUBLE.
THUMP
BESIDES, WE'RE LOOKING FOR A PERSON OF GREAT TALENT, SOMEONE WHO'D UNDERSTAND OUR BUSINESS. IN OTHER WORDS, WE OPEN UP A BRANCH LIKE THIS, AND ONCE THE LOCALS ACCEPT WHAT LIFE INSURANCE IS ALL ABOUT, WE LEAVE THE BUSINESS TO SOMEBODY LIKE YOU AND MOVE ON ELSEWHERE TO START THE SAME PROCESS ALL OVER AGAIN.
TH-THIS? FOR ME?
YES. PLEASE ACCEPT OUR GIFT.

WHAT?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN TAKING OVER?
GULP
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU, AND I AM VERY FAMILIAR WITH YOUR KYOSAI ISSEN-SHA. IN FACT, I'VE BEEN THINKING YOU'D BE THE PERFECT PERSON TO RUN THINGS HERE.
WE'LL GIVE YOU THIS OFFICE AND ALL THE CUSTOMERS WE SIGNED UP SINCE WE CAME HERE.
ER... W-WELL...
YOU SAID THIS BUSINESS IS A FRAUD. I TAKE THAT AS A SIGN OF YOUR STRONG WILL TO PROTECT THE CUSTOMERS WHO SIGN UP, AND THAT DEEPENS MY BELIEF THAT YOU'RE THE VERY PERSON I'M LOOKING FOR.

I...I...ER... AFTER I TAKE OVER, WHAT'RE YOU GONNA--?
YOU'RE AN IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR THIS. I HOPE YOU'LL RECOMMEND LIFE INSURANCE TO AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE.
A-AFTER YOU'VE GROWN YOUR BUSINESS SO BIG HERE--
THAT'S MY JOB, AND THAT'S WHAT HEADQUARTERS ASSIGNED ME TO DO.
LIKE I SAID, WE'LL MOVE ON TO OTHER PLACES AND TRY TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT LIFE INSURANCE.
HERE ARE THE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS OF THE COMPANY, TITLE CERTIFICATE, AND RECORDS OF THE MEMBERS.
TO SPREAD THIS BUSINESS THROUGHOUT JAPAN, WE MUST BUILD THE FOUNDATION ONE PLACE AT A TIME.


鹿島雪
YUKI KASHIMA
MY CHARACTER AND TALENT BROUGHT THIS FORTUNE.
わっはははっ
AHAHAHAHA!!
IT'S LIKE A DREAM. THE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND THE TITLE CERTIFICATE TURNED OUT TO BE REAL, AND INSURANCE MONEY IS STREAMING IN EVERYDAY.

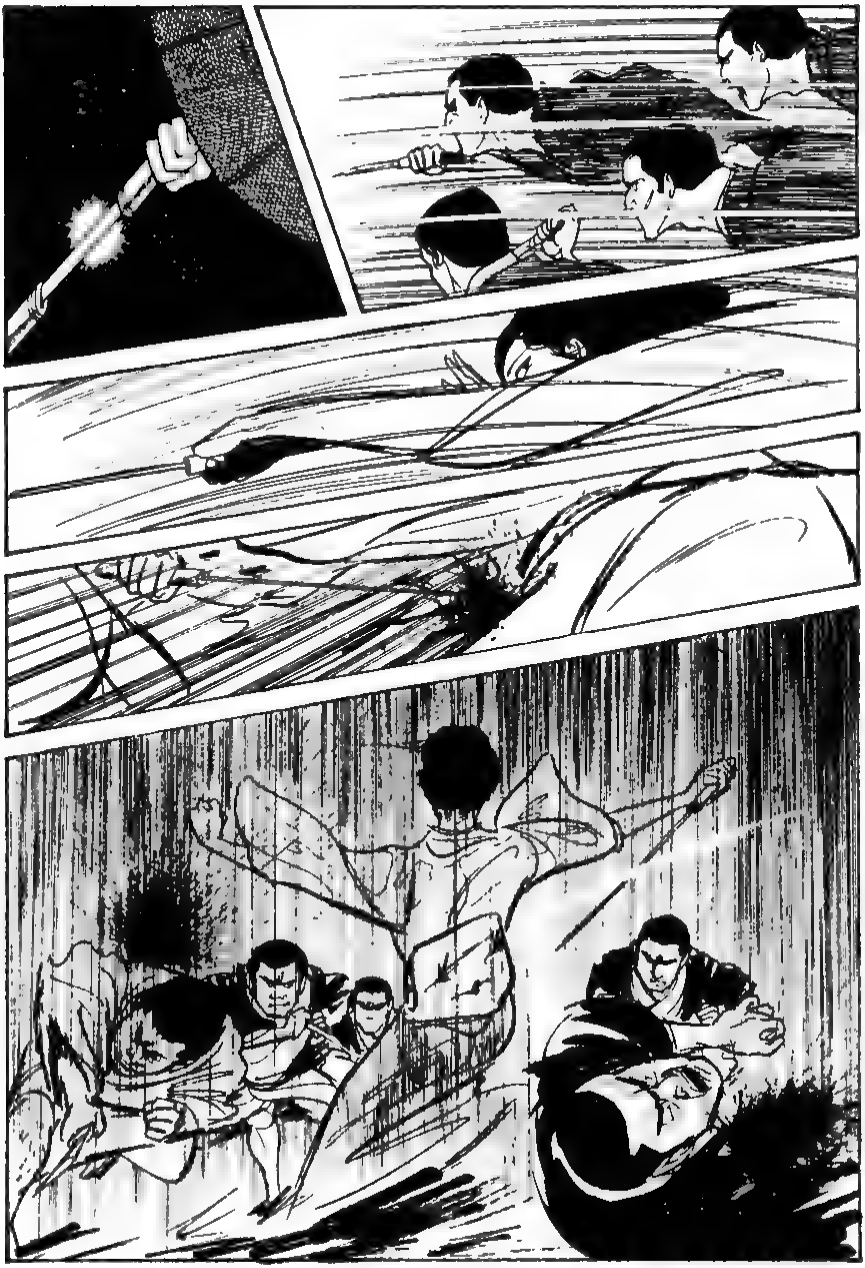
WE'VE GOT A NUMBER OF BIG SHOTS FROM OSAKA'S POLITICAL AND BUSINESS SCENES FOR OUR CELEBRATION TODAY.
I, OKONO FUJISHIMA, WILL PUT MY WHOLE LIFE INTO THE LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS, AND...

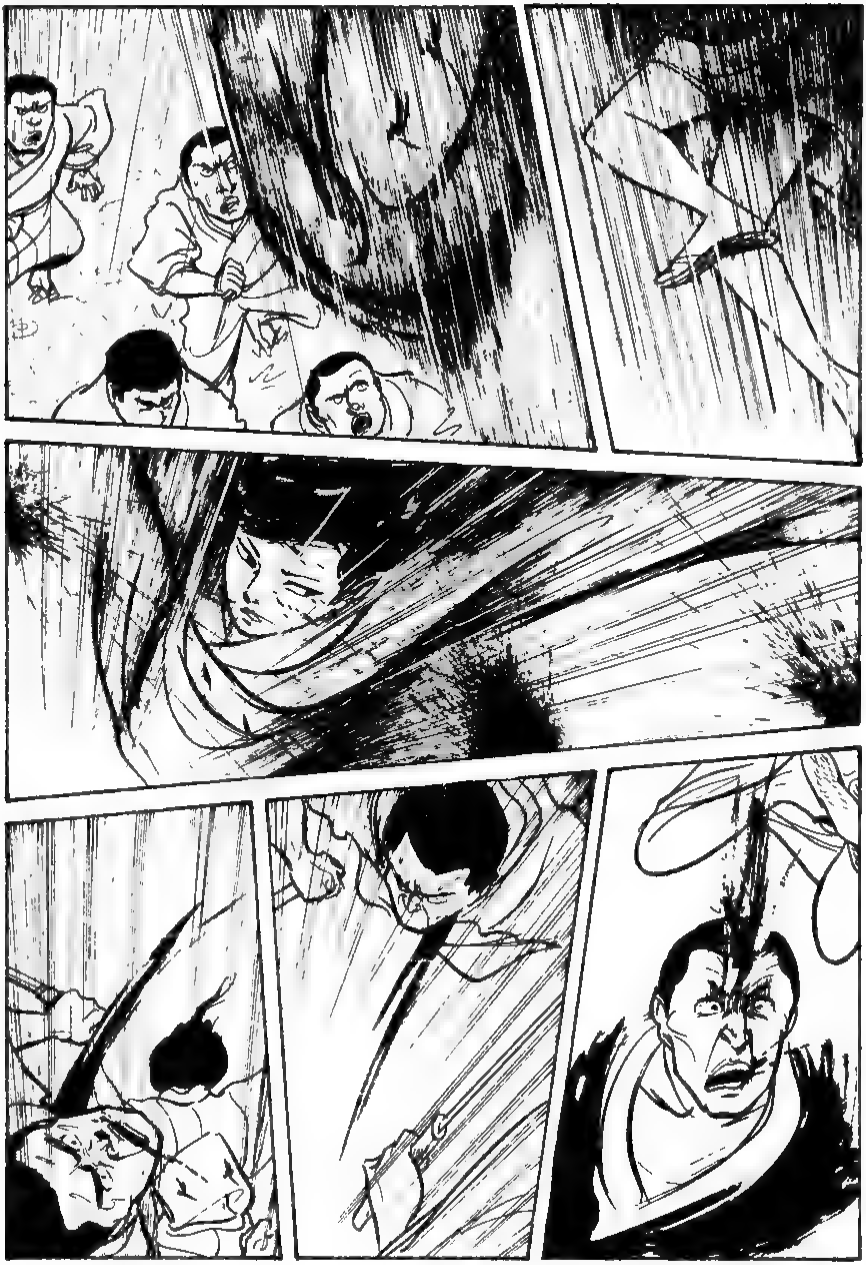
P-PRESIDENT! WE'VE GOT A DISASTER!
OKONO FUJISHIMA
WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE!?
BAM!!!
IT'S A DISASTER! P-PLEASE TAKE A LOOK.
ALMOST HALF THE MEMBERS TURNED OUT TO BE TERMINALLY ILL!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

YESTERDAY, SIX REPORTED DEAD! B-BEREAVED FAMILIES...THE BENEFICIARIES HAVE RUSHED IN TO CLAIM THEIR BENEFITS, AND I...IT AMOUNTS TO F-FIVE THOUSAND YEN! WE ONLY HAVE TWO THOUSAND YEN IN OUR VAULT, AND THAT'S ALL WE HAVE. BUT I BET MORE PEOPLE WILL TURN UP DAY AFTER DAY!
WHAT!?
GET EVERYONE TOGETHER AND FIND HER.
FIND THAT BITCH!
I...I'M SURE THE HEADQUARTERS WILL COVER THE COST.
BUT THERE IS NO HEADQUARTERS. MEIJITSU LIFE DOESN'T EVEN EXIST!

SHE'S GONE.
SHE'S NOWHERE.
TH-THAT BITCH...
Y... YOU...!

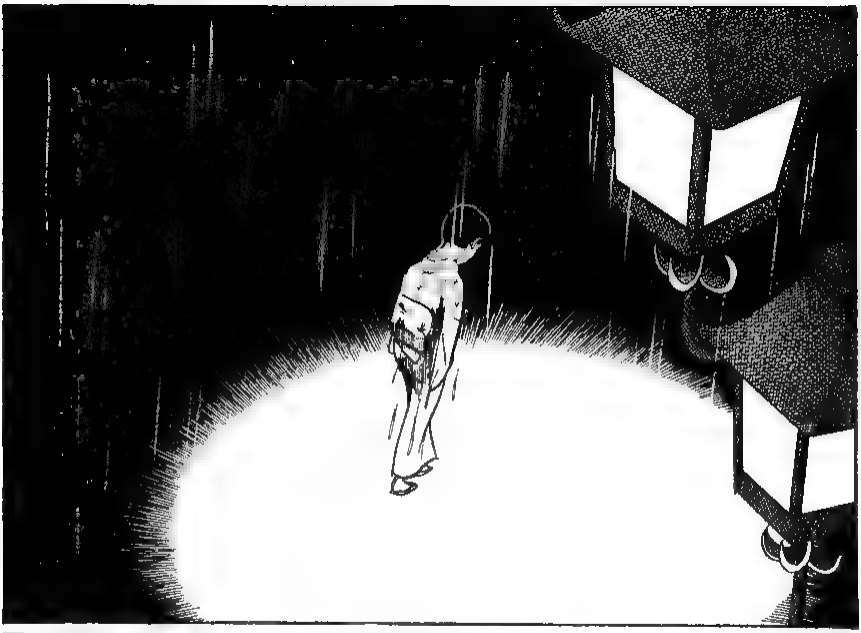
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
HEH HEH HEH. THIS IS IT FOR YOU. EVEN IF YOU SELL YOUR ESTATE AND GATHER EVERY PENNY YOU'VE GOT, YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO PAY OFF THE BENEFICIARIES.
I'LL COME VISIT YOU IN PRISON. I'LL TELL YOU WHO I AM THEN, OKONO *KITAHAMA*.
HEH HEH HEH
BEAT HER UP!
BITCH!
G-GET THAT BITCH!



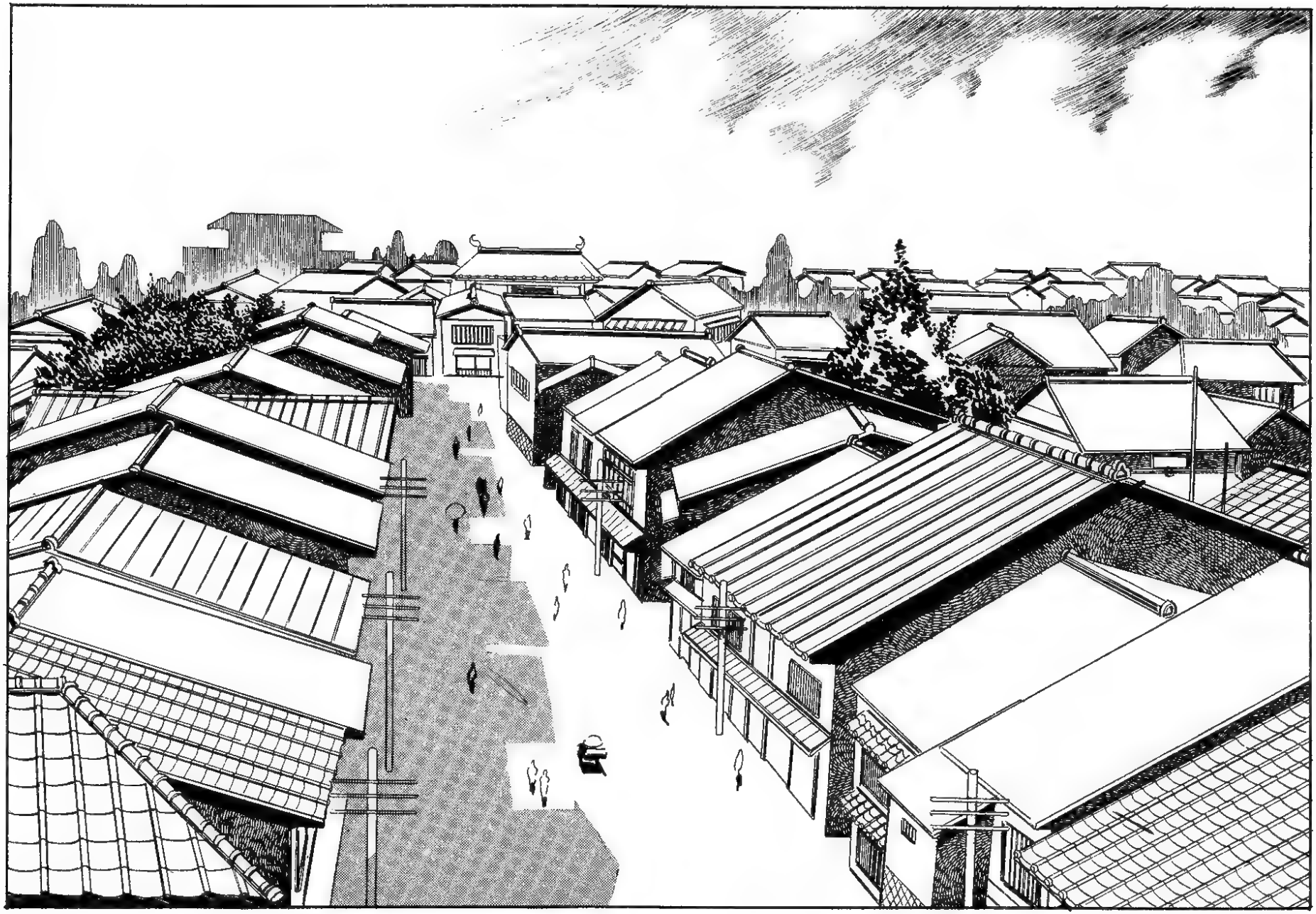


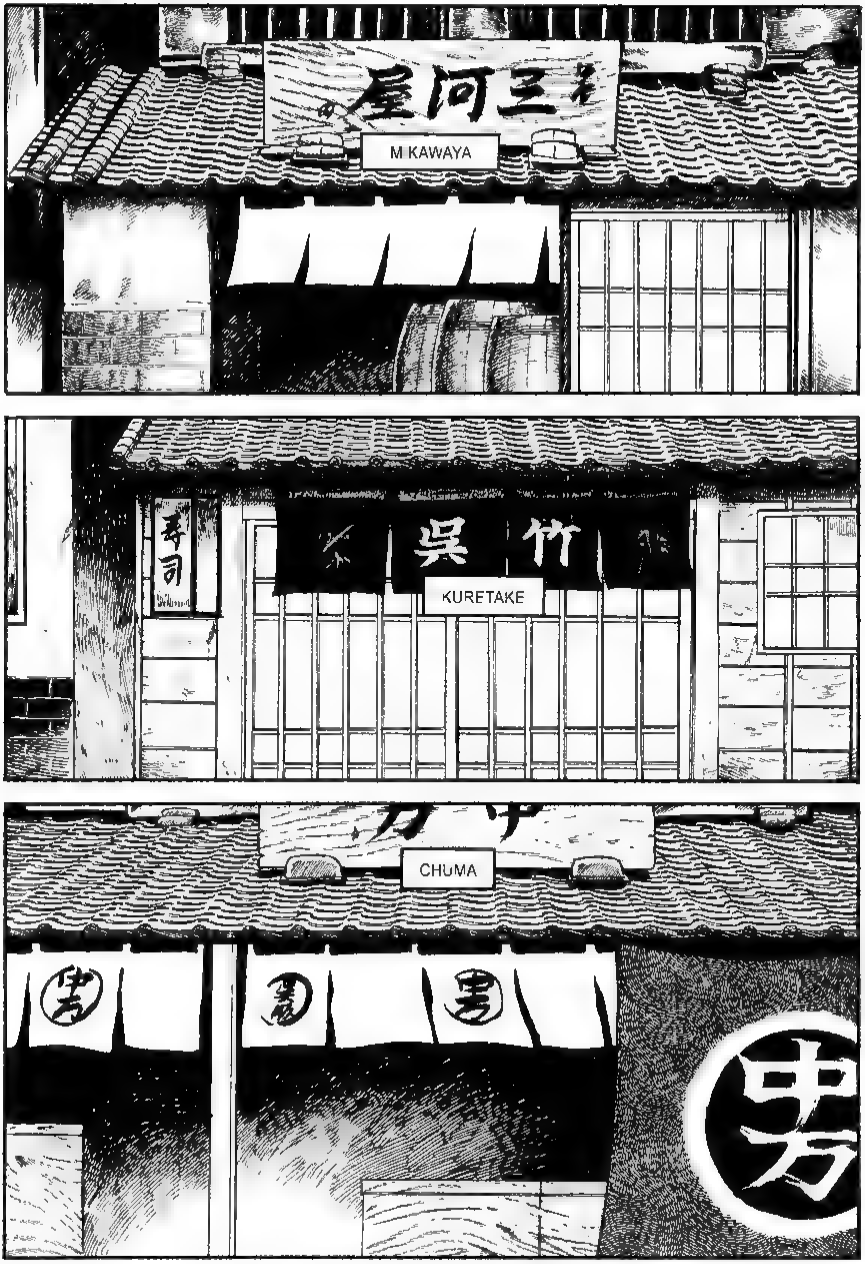
DSSH
THUD
KRUMP
AHH
LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL BE SENTENCED NOT ONLY FOR THE FRAUD BUT ALSO FOR THIS CARNAGE.
HEH
HEH
THUD

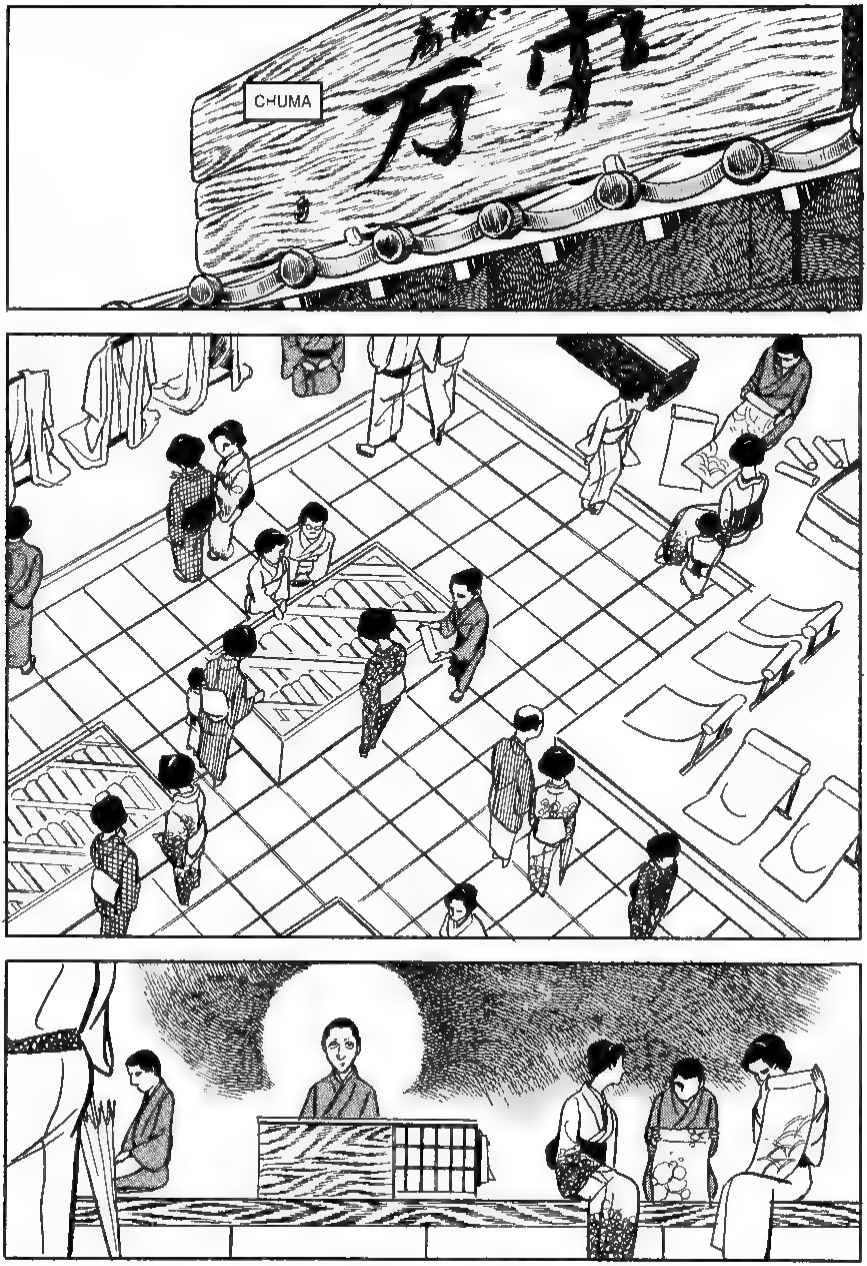
THERE'RE TOO MANY DEAD BODIES FOR THAT. HEH HEH HEH
YOU'D BE HARD PRESSED TO WRIGGLE YOUR WAY OUT.
MY MOTHER SUFFERED BITTERLY IN THE LOCKUP. WHY DON'T YOU TASTE ONE TEN THOUSANDTH OF WHAT SHE ENDURED? HEH HEH
I'LL COME VISIT YOU THERE.



外題之九
恐喝源次郎朦朧節
一
EPISODE 9
BLACKMAILER
GENJIRO
AND THE
SONG OF
THE PHANTOM,
PART 1.




三河屋
M KAWAYA
寿司
呉竹
KURETAKE
CHUMA
男
男
男
中


CHUMA

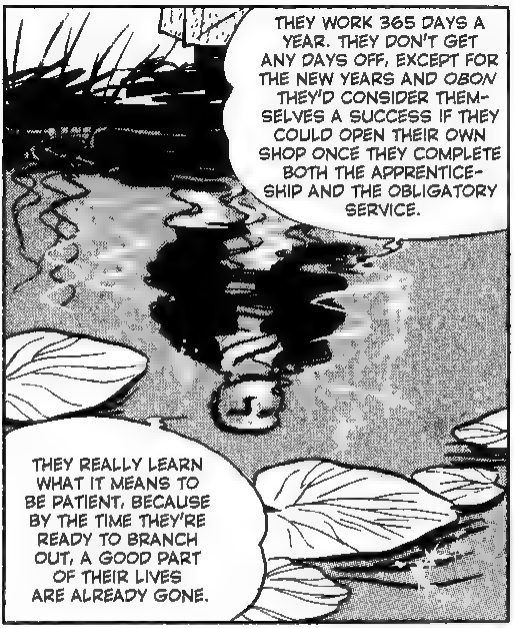
"HE'S THE HEAD CLERK. WATCH HIM.
TWIST
TWIST
"PRETTY GOOD, HUH? IT LOOKS AS IF HE'S CLEANING HIMSELF WITH AN EARPICK."

YES! WELCOME.
THANK YOU AS ALWAYS.
"OKAY, NOW, LOOK AT HIS HAND CAREFULLY.
SHRINNGG
SHRINNGG

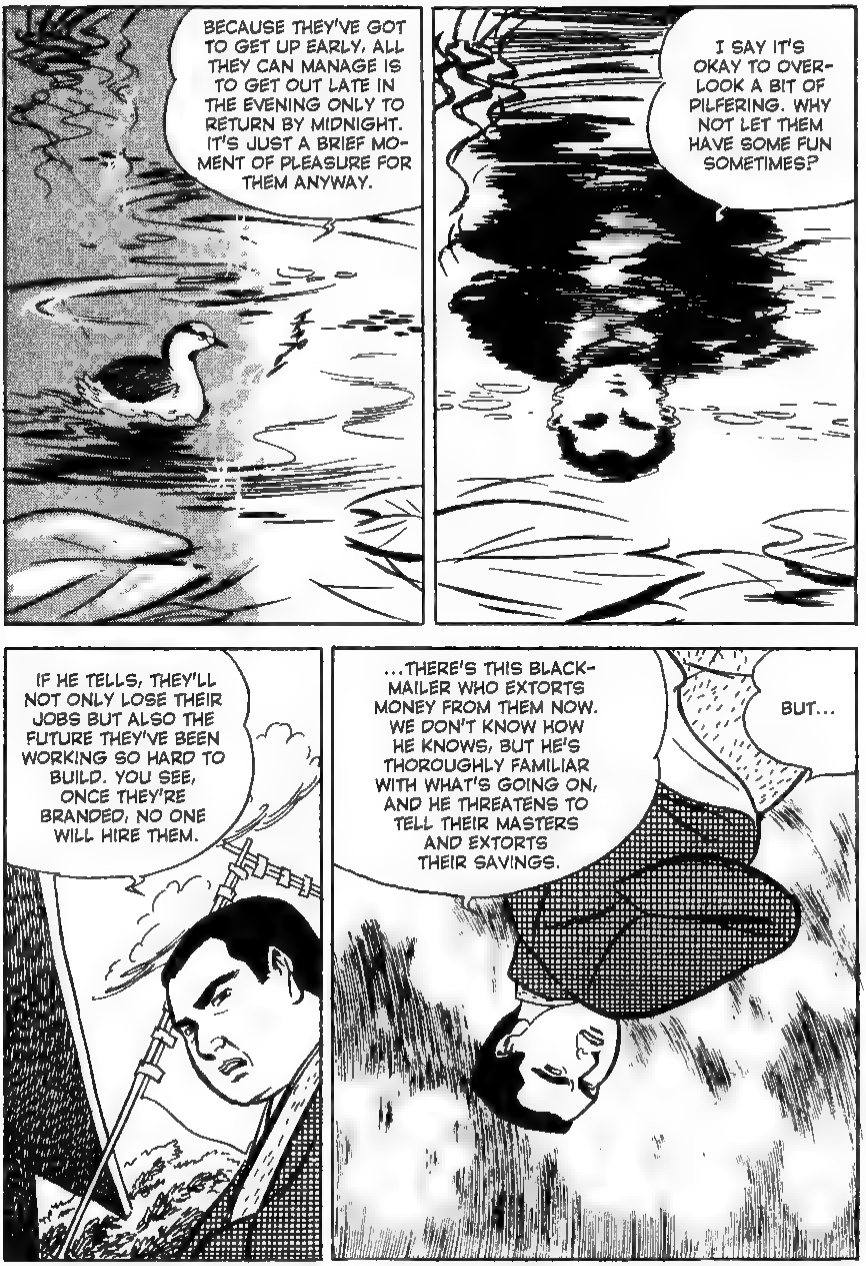
"IT'S A PRETTY HIGH-LEVEL TRICK. THE SHOP OWNER DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE EVEN THOUGH HE KEEPS A SHARP WATCH.
"JUST LIKE THAT. HE SWIPES SMALL CHANGE BETWEEN HIS THUMB AND FINGER AS HE THROWS IN THE MONEY HE GETS FROM THE CUSTOMERS.
HERE'S YOUR ORDER!
WELCOME.
"NOW, THE SUSHI SHOP NEXT."

"HE HIDES THE MONEY HE LIFTS IN THE WASH BASIN."
THANK YOU, SIR.
HEY! CHANGE THE WASH BASIN, WILL YA?
"HE'S TEAMED UP WITH AN APPRENTICE. HE HIDES THE MONEY, AND THE APPRENTICE PICKS IT UP AND REPLACES THE WATER.
"NO ONE NOTICES IT."

CRIKET
REE
CRIK
REE
CRIK
REE

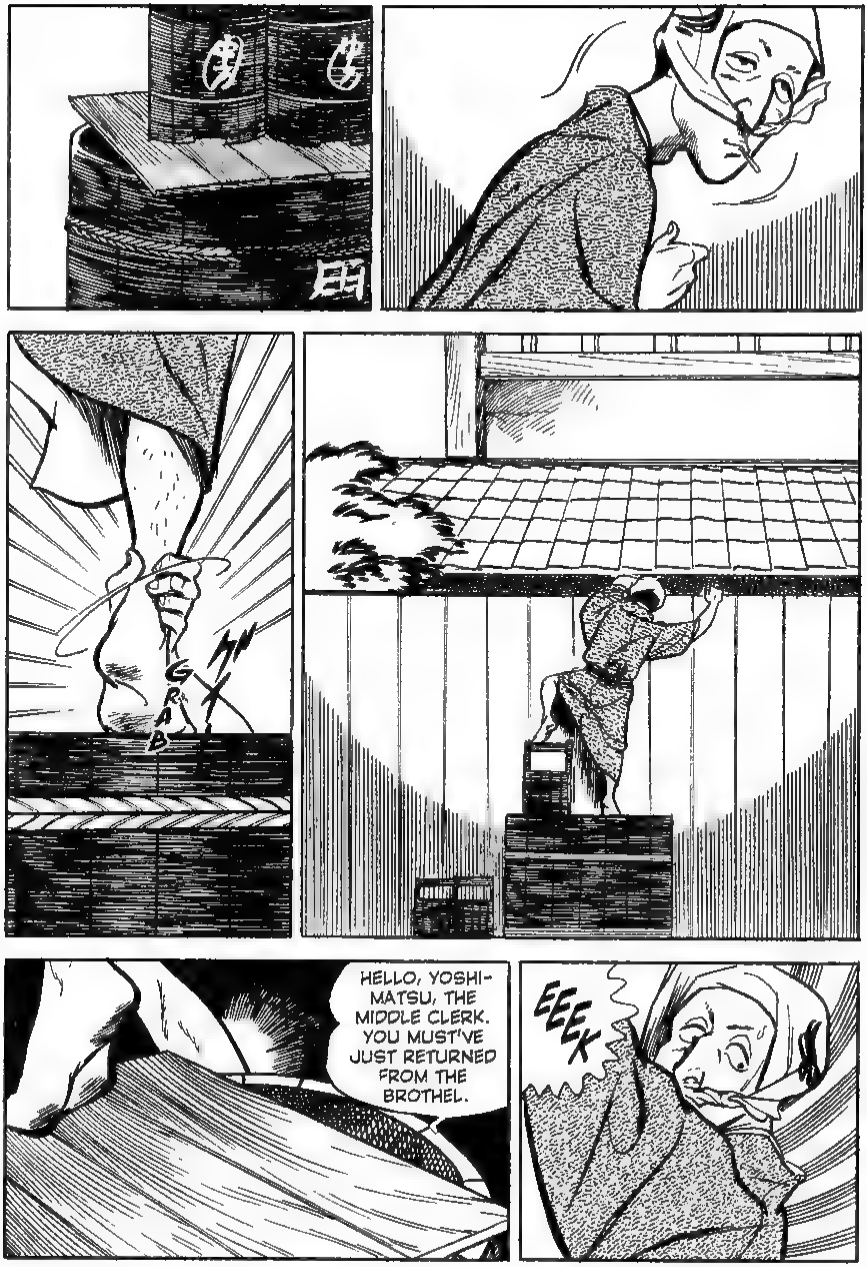

THEY WORK 365 DAYS A YEAR. THEY DON'T GET ANY DAYS OFF, EXCEPT FOR THE NEW YEARS AND *OBON*. THEY'D CONSIDER THEMSELVES A SUCCESS IF THEY COULD OPEN THEIR OWN SHOP ONCE THEY COMPLETE BOTH THE APPRENTICESHIP AND THE OBLIGATORY SERVICE.
THEY REALLY LEARN WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PATIENT, BECAUSE BY THE TIME THEY'RE READY TO BRANCH OUT, A GOOD PART OF THEIR LIVES ARE ALREADY GONE.

RESTING PLACE

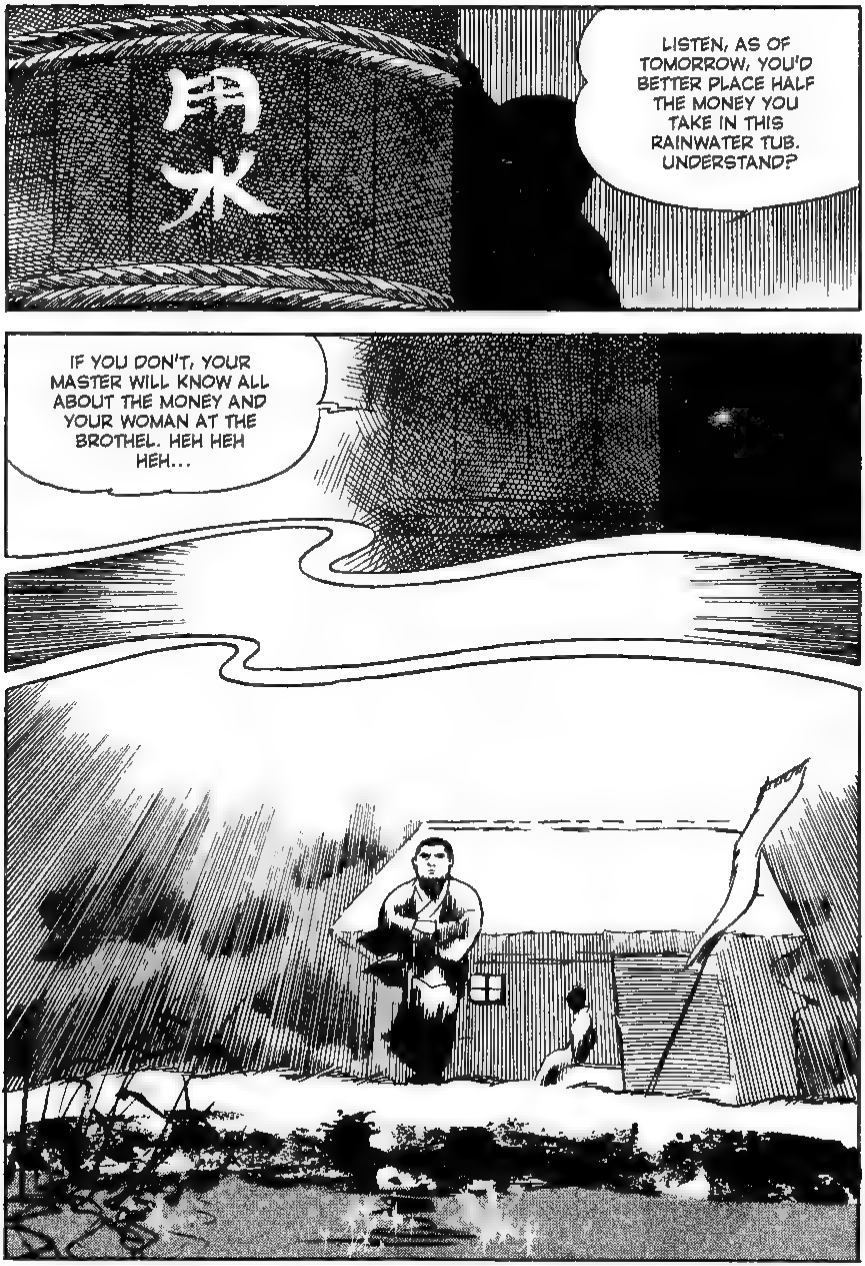

BECAUSE THEY'VE GOT TO GET UP EARLY, ALL THEY CAN MANAGE IS TO GET OUT LATE IN THE EVENING ONLY TO RETURN BY MIDNIGHT. IT'S JUST A BRIEF MOMENT OF PLEASURE FOR THEM ANYWAY.
I SAY IT'S OKAY TO OVERLOOK A BIT OF PILFERING. WHY NOT LET THEM HAVE SOME FUN SOMETIMES?
IF HE TELLS, THEY'LL NOT ONLY LOSE THEIR JOBS BUT ALSO THE FUTURE THEY'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD TO BUILD. YOU SEE, ONCE THEY'RE BRANDED, NO ONE WILL HIRE THEM.
...THERE'S THIS BLACKMAILER WHO EXTORTS MONEY FROM THEM NOW. WE DON'T KNOW HOW HE KNOWS, BUT HE'S THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH WHAT'S GOING ON, AND HE THREATENS TO TELL THEIR MASTERS AND EXTORTS THEIR SAVINGS.
BUT...

FOR
N-
-STANCE
APPARENTLY THEY CALL HIM BLACK-MAILER GENJIRO BUT THE PROBLEM IS NONE OF THEM KNOWS WHO THE HELL HE IS

HUH?


GRAB
SHX
HELLO, YOSHIMATSU, THE MIDDLE CLERK. YOU MUST'VE JUST RETURNED FROM THE BROTHEL.
EEEK

IF YOUR MASTER HEARS THAT YOU'RE STEALING HIS MONEY TO HAVE FUN AT NIGHT, YOU'LL BE IN REAL TROUBLE.
WH-WHO THE HECK?
HEY, BE QUIET!
I'M GENJIRO. HEE HEE HEE. REMEMBER MY NAME. WE'LL BE GOOD FRIENDS FROM NOW ON. HEH HEH.
ER.. ER...
I AM WELL AWARE THAT YOU LIKE TO USE A ONE-YEN BILL AS AN EARPICK.


LISTEN, AS OF TOMORROW, YOU'D BETTER PLACE HALF THE MONEY YOU TAKE IN THIS RAINWATER TUB. UNDERSTAND?
IF YOU DON'T, YOUR MASTER WILL KNOW ALL ABOUT THE MONEY AND YOUR WOMAN AT THE BROTHEL. HEH HEH HEH...

THE DUPED MEN CAME TO ME FOR HELP, BUT I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHAT TO DO. YOU SEE, I TRIED. I SENT MY GUYS OUT THERE BUT GENJIRO JUST WOULDN'T SHOW UP THOSE DAYS.
THAT'S HOW IT GOES, AND HE NEVER REVEALS HIMSELF AS HE MAKES HIS THREATS. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. HE GRADUALLY INCREASES THE AMOUNT HE DEMANDS, AND SOMETIMES HE MAKES THEM STEAL THINGS FROM THE STORE, TOO.
THESE MEN SCRAPED TOGETHER FIFTY *YEN*. AND I'VE ADDED ANOTHER FIFTY. I KNOW A HUNDRED ISN'T MUCH, BUT I BEG YOU. PLEASE HELP 'EM OUT.
SO I WENT TO SEE KIKU OF TAJIRE FOR ADVICE AND SHE, IN TURN, INTRODUCED ME TO YOU. NOW, WHAT DO YOU SAY? WILL YOU TAKE THIS UP?

IF THIS IS LEFT IGNORED, IT'S GONNA EXPLODE. GENJIRO HAS MORE THAN FIFTY GUYS BY THE BALLS.
BESIDES, WHAT MAKES HIM BLACKMAIL LIKE THAT? IT'S TOO WEIRD FOR ME TO GUESS.
BUT SINCE THIS IS HAPPENING WITHIN MY TERRITORY, I CAN'T DISMISS IT.
PLEASE, LADY SNOW-BLOOD...

ザッ
ZA

SINCE I'M ALSO THEIR GUARANTOR, MY REPUTATION IS ON THE LINE.
THIS IS A PERSONAL REQUEST FROM ME, TETSU AIZAWA, AN EMPLOYMENT AGENT. THERE ARE MANY WHOM I RECOMMENDED.
ALL RIGHT.

CHUMA
万中

THANK YOU.
SINCE YOU CAME RECOMMENDED FROM NONE OTHER THAN MR. TETSU AIZAWA, WE'LL HAVE YOU START WORKING IMMEDIATELY.
YES.
COME THIS WAY.

YES.
OUR MASTER HAS BEEN SICK IN BED FOR A LONG TIME. SO WHEN YOU SEE HIM, JUST BOW DOWN POLITELY AND KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT. OKAY?
MASTER, THIS IS YUKI. SHE JUST STARTED AS A MAID AT THIS HOUSE.

IS IT SNOW-ING?
NO. IT'S HER NAME. SHE'S OYUKI. SHE IS HIRED TO WORK AS A MAID.
?!
YES, SIR.
OYUKI, HUH?
YES, SIR.
WORK HARD, OKAY?

YES, MA'AM.
NOW! IT'S GONNA GET BUSY. MEN FROM THE SHOP WILL BE COMING HERE FOR LUNCH ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

OYUKI, OUR HEAD CLERK IS HERE.
WELL, SHE CAME WITH A RECOMMEN-DATION FROM TETSU AIZAWA, YOU KNOW.
DON'T BE SO NERVOUS. YOU SEEM LIKE A NICE, ENERGETIC YOUNG WOMAN.

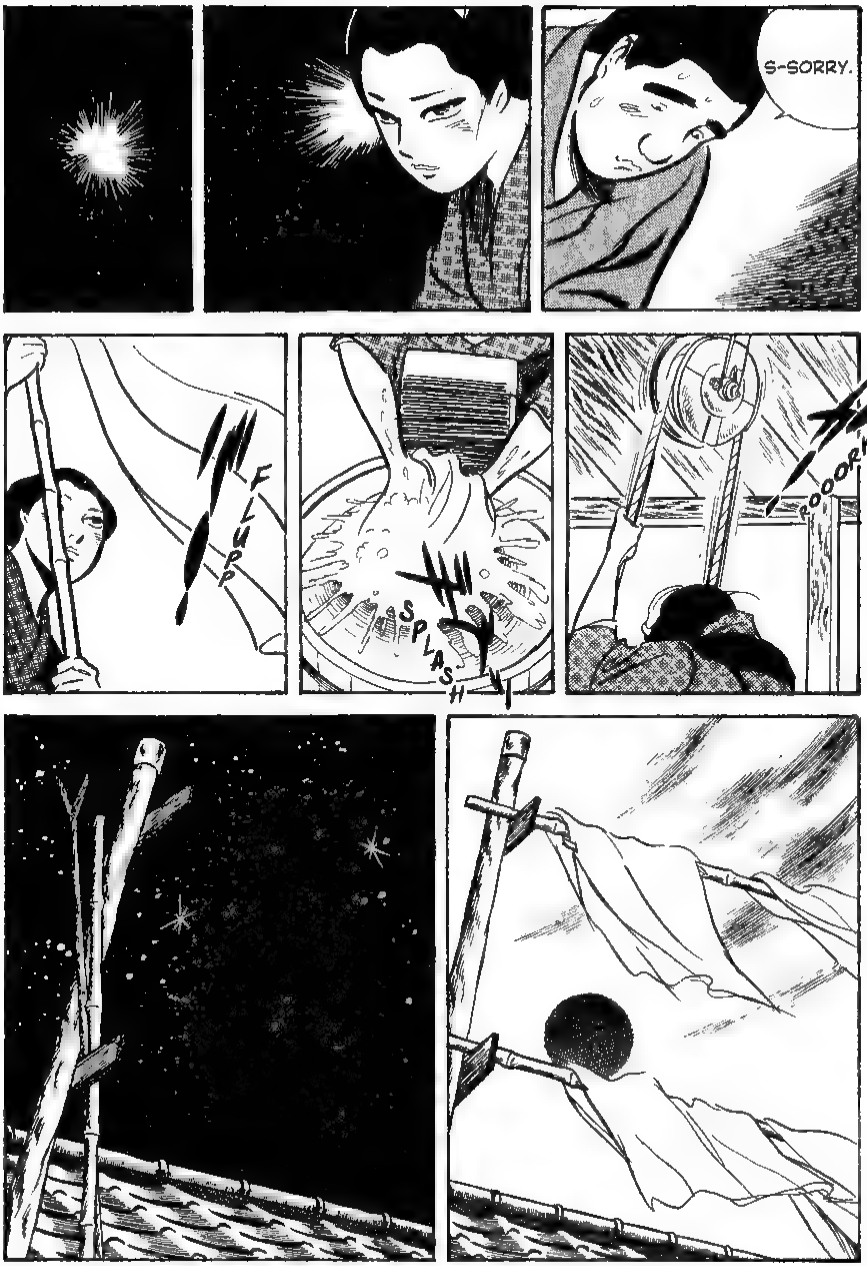
HUFF
THANKS FOR THE MEAL.
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
HEY, ARE YOU THE NEW MAID THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT?
AH, I'M STARVING!
YEP, YEP... NOT BAD AT ALL.
A BIT MORE POLISH WOULD DO HER SOME GOOD, I SAY.
NOT BAD, LIKE THEY SAID.
Y... YES.

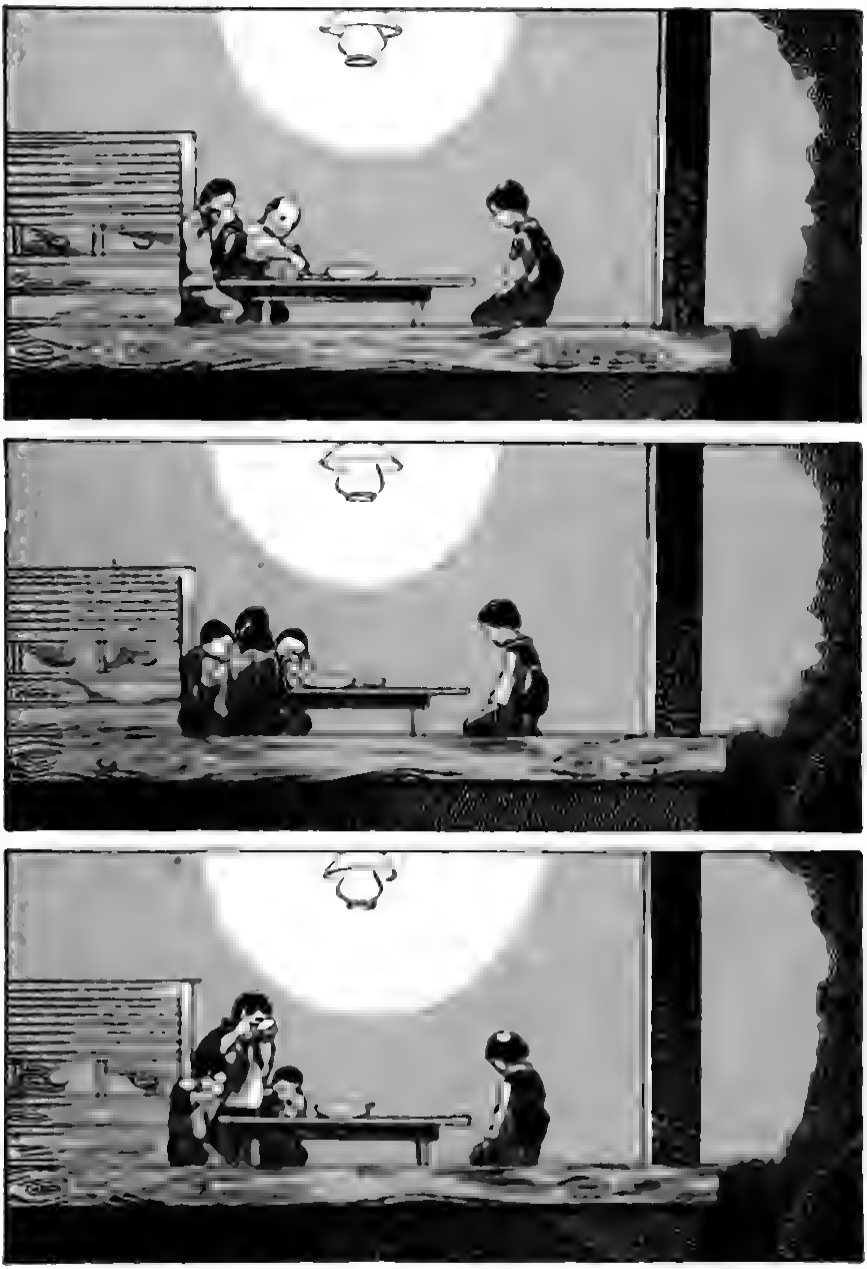
I'M OYUKI.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
GIVE US SOME FOOD.
I'M KOSUKE. CHOMP SLURP.
OYUKI, HUH? I'M IKICHI. CRUNCH CRUNCH.
YES.
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
I'M... MUNCH MUNCH... BANSAKU.
AND I'M JIHEI. MORE PLEASE.

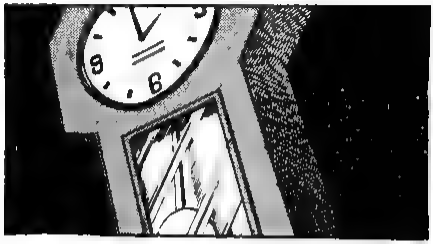
LOOK, OYUKI, APPRENTICES ARE COMING.

THANKS.
GOBBL
GOBBL
GOBBL
M-MORE PLEASE.
HE'S HAD ENOUGH.
HURRY UP! HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA TAKE TO FINISH YOUR MEAL?
IF YOU LET OTOMATSU EAT AS MUCH AS HE WANTS, THERE'LL BE NO END TO IT.

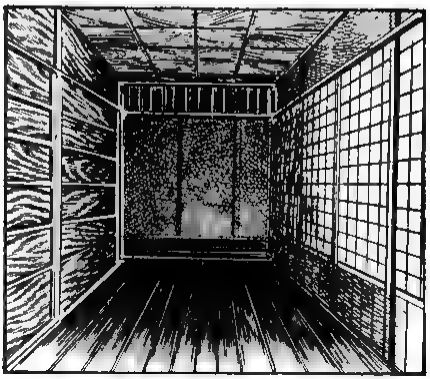
YOU'RE NOT JUST SLOW AND STUPID BUT A GLUTTON, TOO. NOTHING BUT YOUR BODY GETS BIGGER EVERYDAY. YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN A *SUMO* WRESTLER.
I...I'M SORRY.
OYUKI, YOU DON'T NEED TO HELP HIM. LET HIM CLEAN UP AFTER HIMSELF.
...
...
KRACK
AH!
YOU FUMBLE-FINGERED COW!

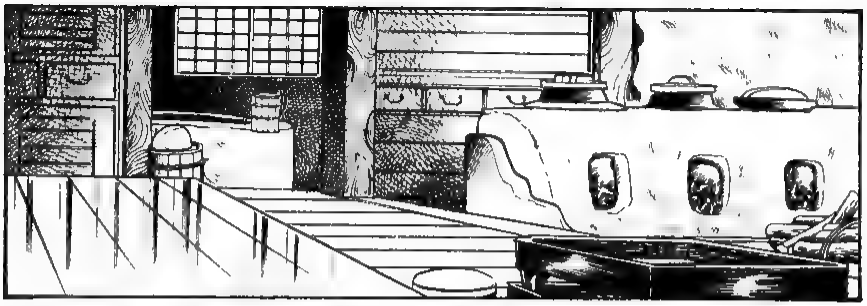

S-SORRY.
FLURP
SPLASH
POOORK

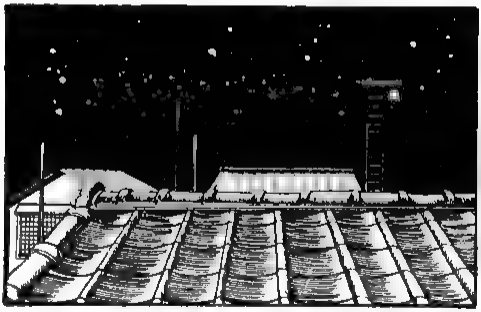


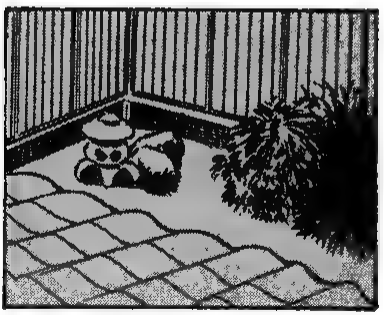


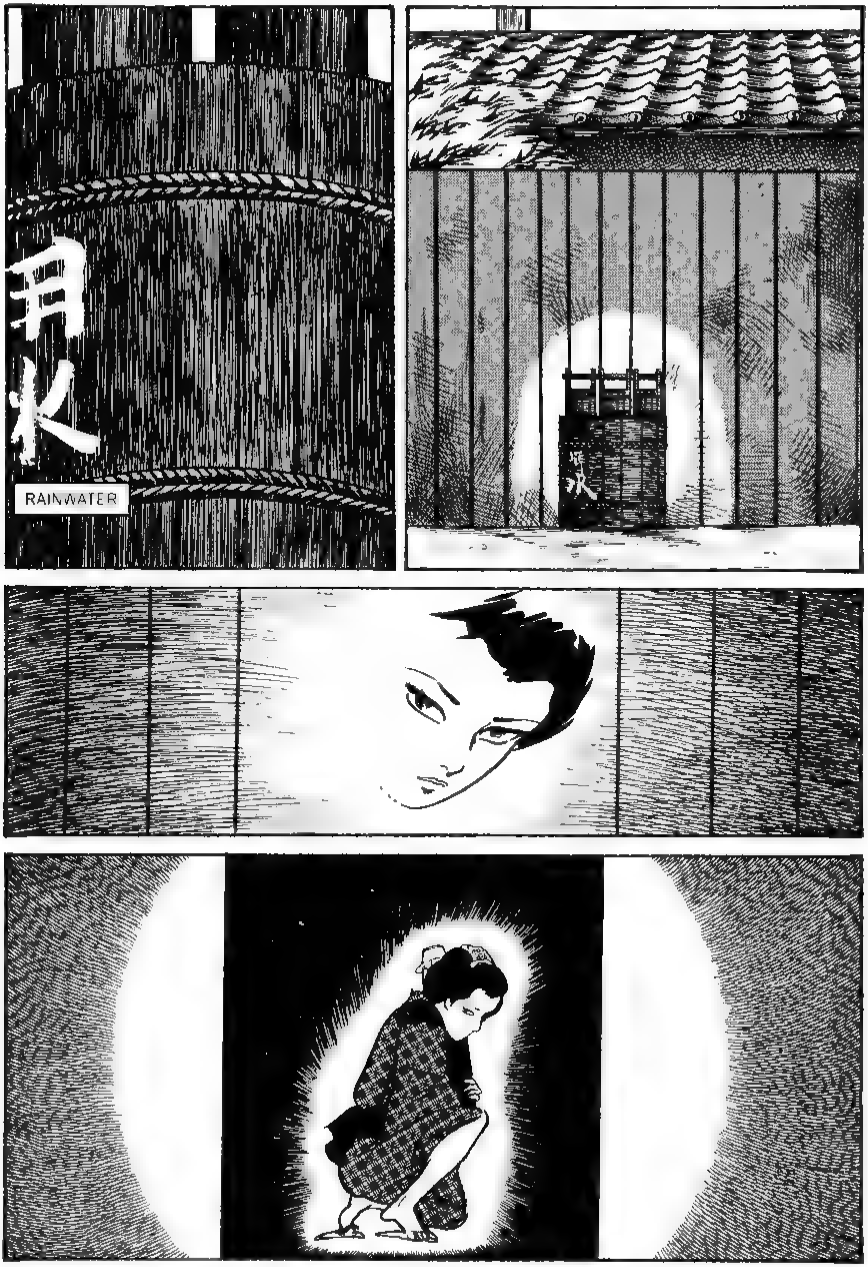
万中

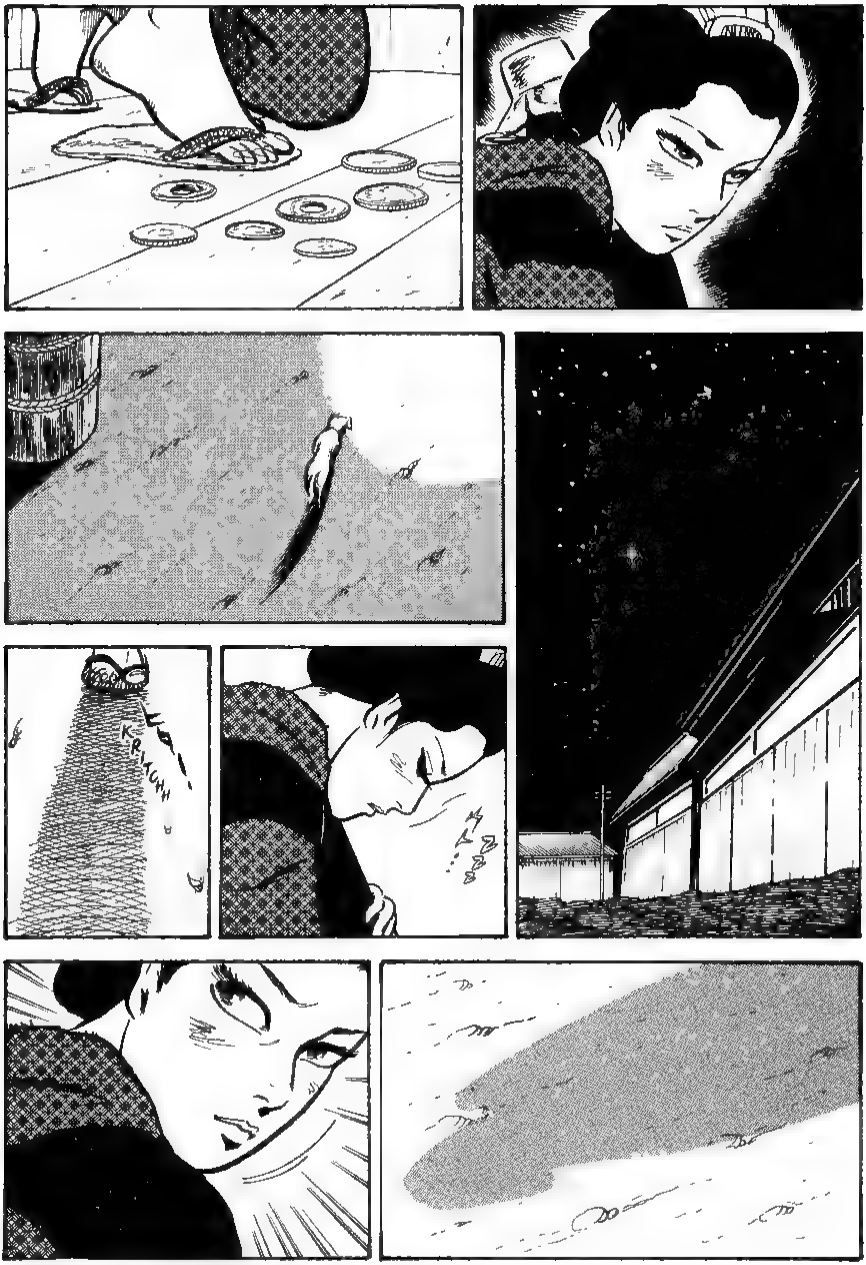









雨水
RAINWATER
雨水


KRIIGHH

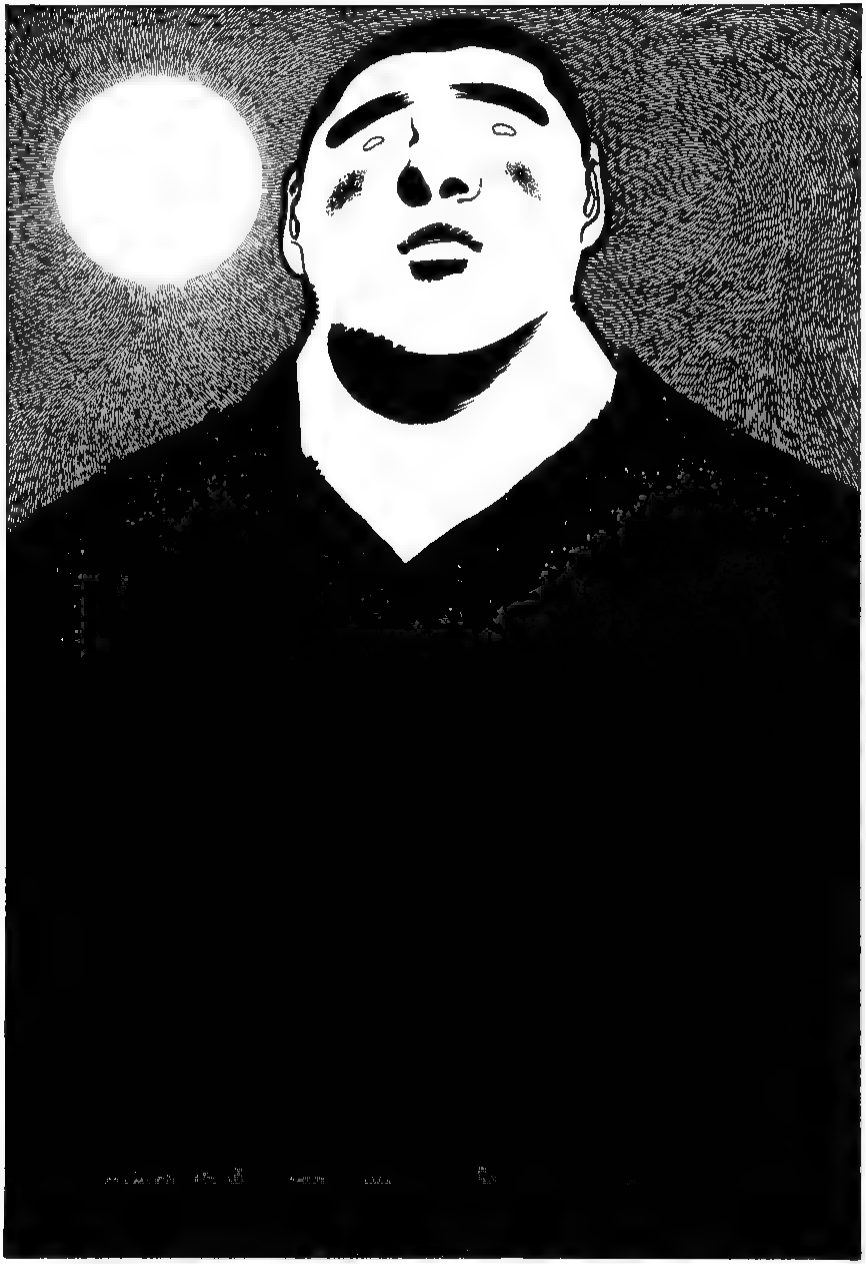
KRAUH
KRAUH
KRAUH
TYANG
UNGH.
WSST

WHOA!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, OTOMATSU? HOW COME YOU'RE HERE?

O-OYUKI, WHAT'RE YOU DOING? Y-YOU SCARED ME.

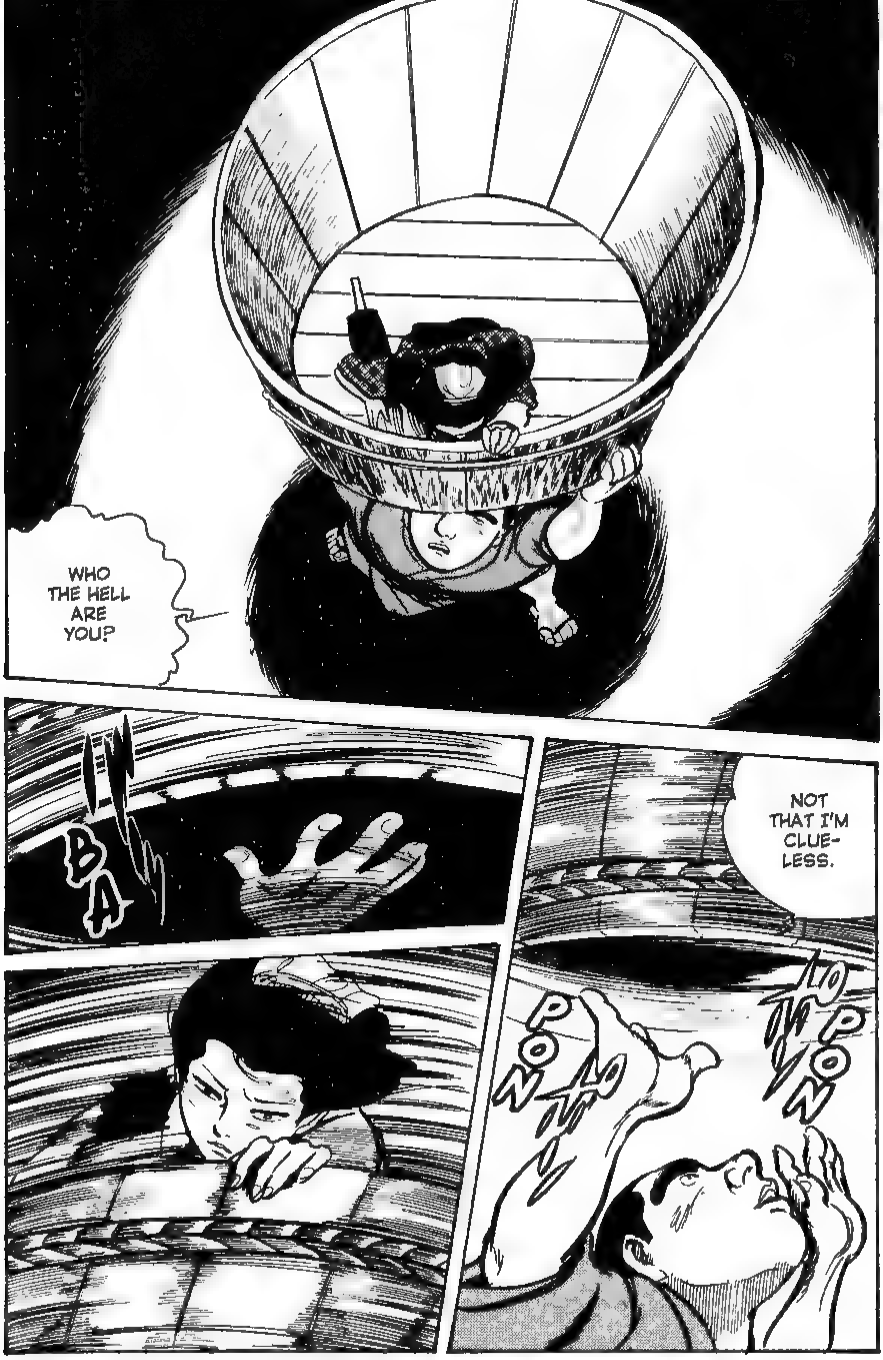
BUT OYUKI, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
THE HEAD CLERK TOLD ME TO FILL THE TUB BUT I FORGOT TO DO IT EARLIER.

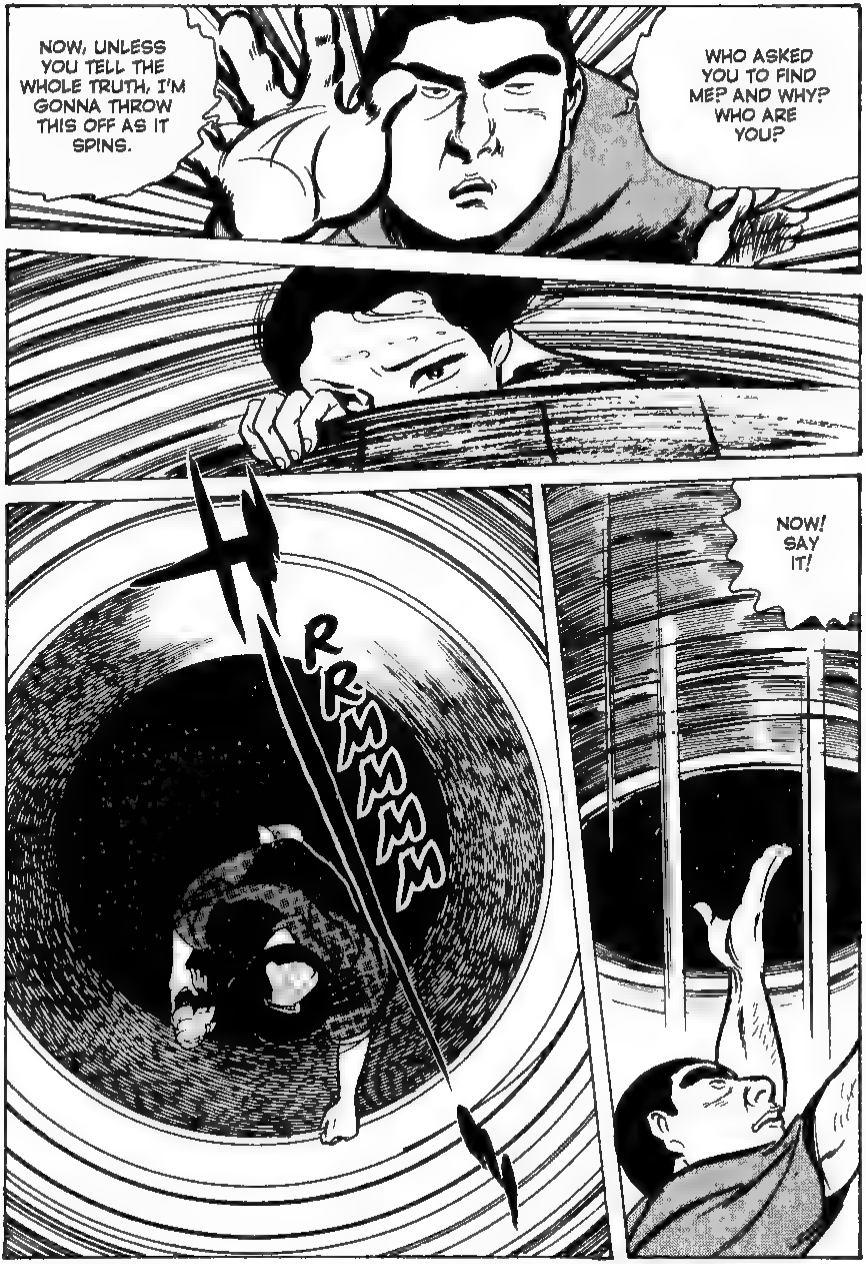


WHEN I LOOKED IN, I SAW SOMETHING GLITTERING, SO--
OYUKI? HOW COME YOU'RE IN THERE?
SHINNNG
WOW! MONEY!
WHAT THING? WHAT'S GLITTERING?

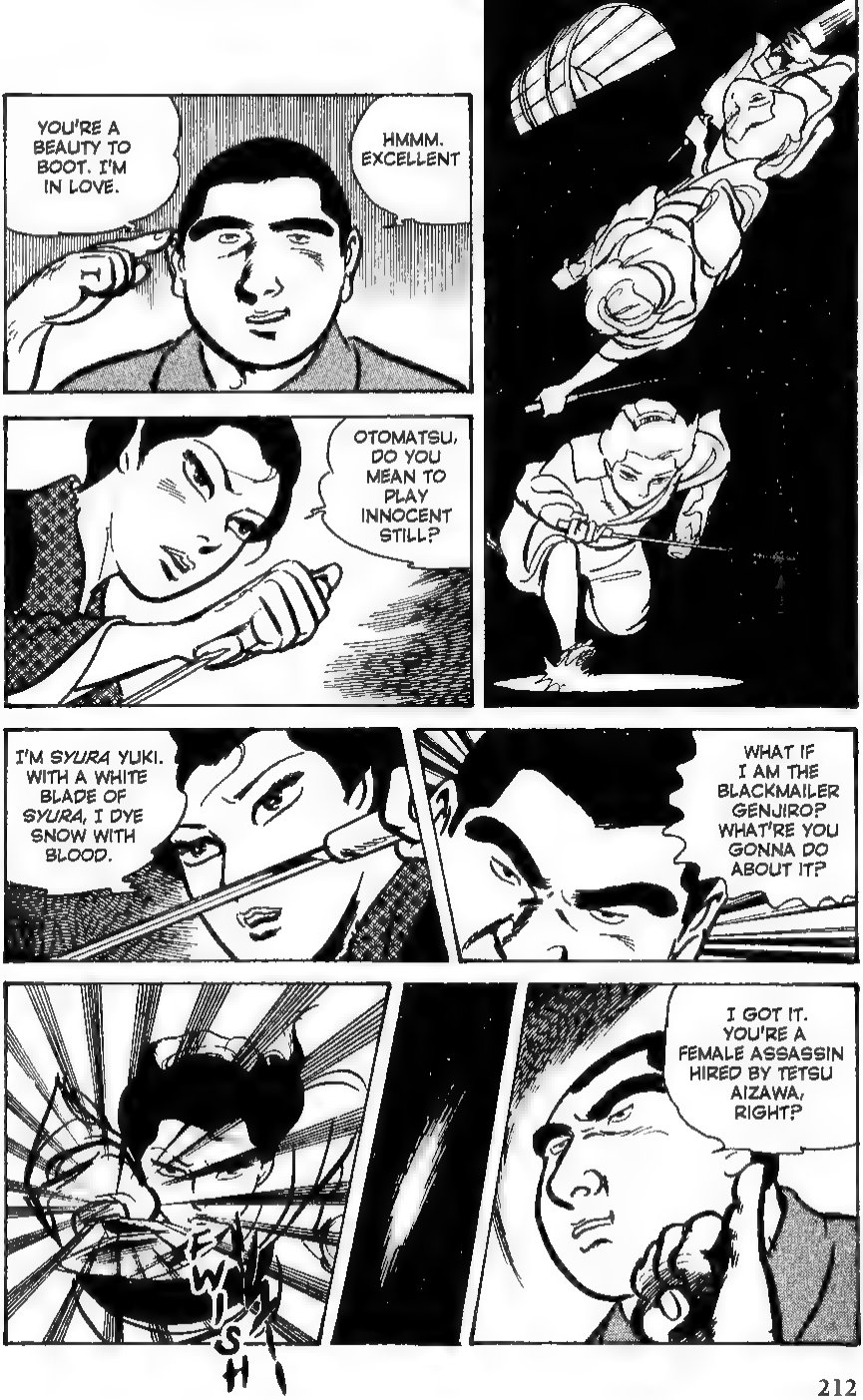
AS I THOUGHT, YOU'RE THE BLACKMAILER GENJIRO, AREN'T YOU?
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?
HUH? WHO'S THAT?
THE WAY YOU DODGED THE COINS. YOU LOOK HEAVY AND SLOW BUT IN FACT YOU'RE INCREDIBLY WELL-TRAINED.
YOU'RE GOOD.
HEH HEH HEH... WELL, THEN, HOW DID YOU KNOW THIS RAINWATER TUB WAS EMPTY?
I GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

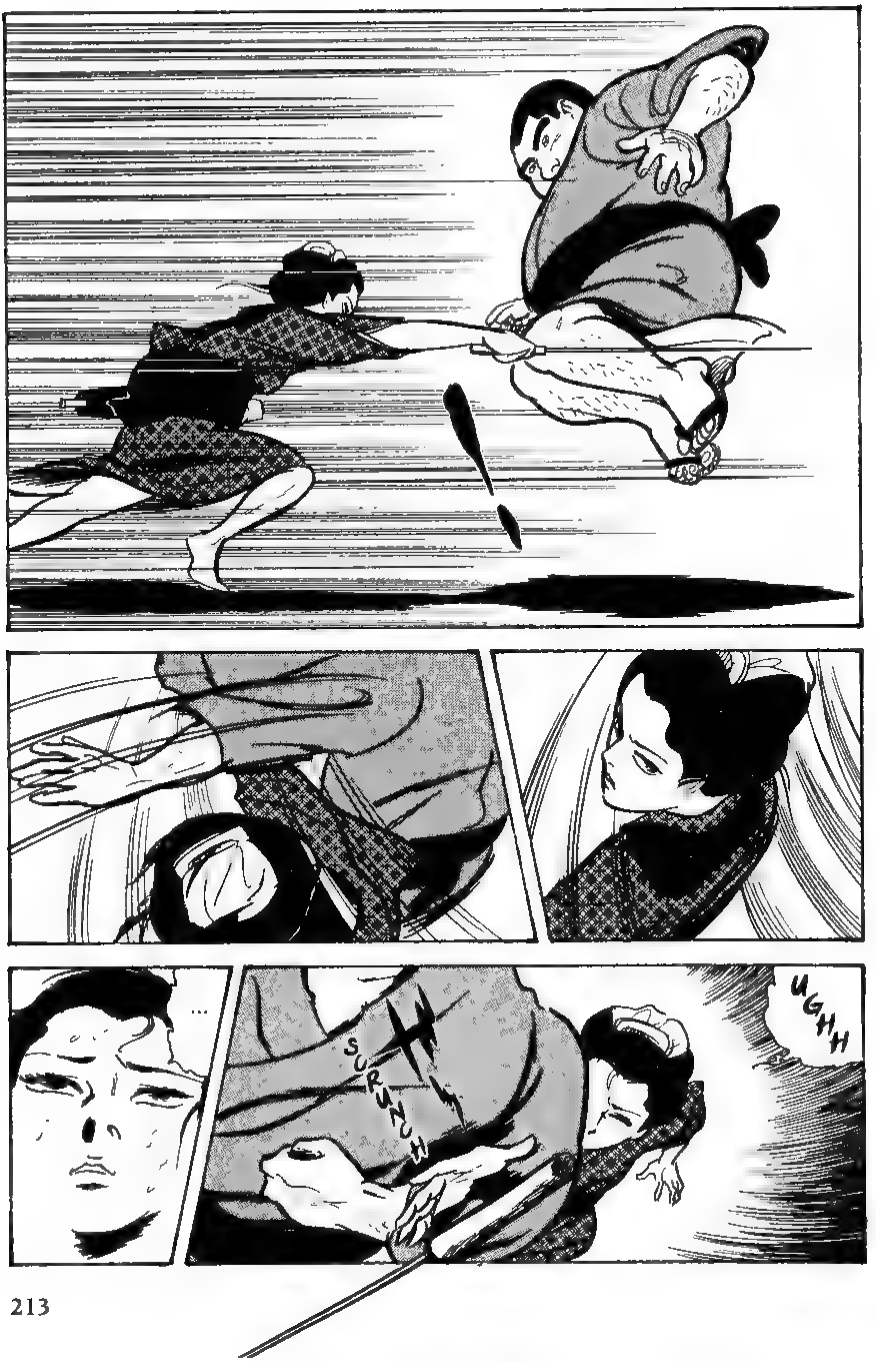
KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIE. THIS TUB WAS FULL TO THE BRIM. I ONLY DRAINED IT A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
THE CLERK TOLD ME.
HMMM...
AHH!
UOOHH!
HRAAAA


WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
BA
NOT THAT I'M CLUELESS.
PON
PON

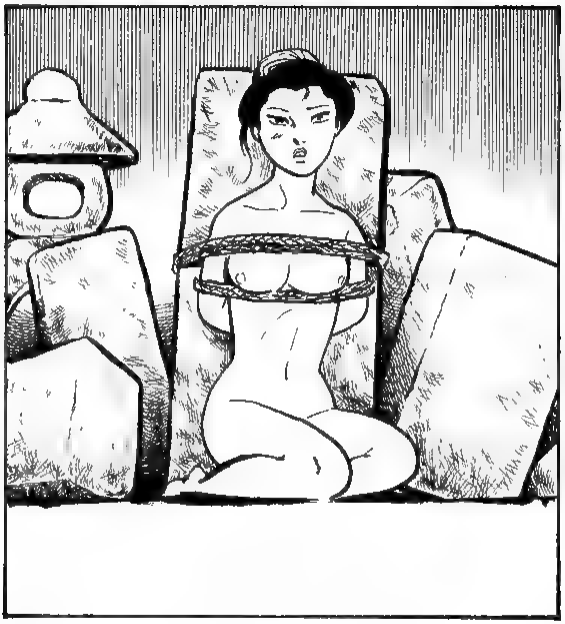

NOW, UNLESS YOU TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH, I'M GONNA THROW THIS OFF AS IT SPINS.
WHO ASKED YOU TO FIND ME? AND WHY? WHO ARE YOU?
RRMMMM
NOW! SAY IT!

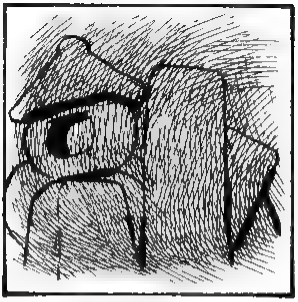
KRAK
KRAUK
SNIP


YOU'RE A BEAUTY TO BOOT. I'M IN LOVE.
HMMM. EXCELLENT
OTOMATSU, DO YOU MEAN TO PLAY INNOCENT STILL?
I'M SYURA YUKI. WITH A WHITE BLADE OF SYURA, I DYE SNOW WITH BLOOD.
WHAT IF I AM THE BLACKMAILER GENJIRO? WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
I GOT IT. YOU'RE A FEMALE ASSASSIN HIRED BY TETSU AIZAWA, RIGHT?
FWIISH


...
SURUNU
UGHH

DOSU
SORRY, BUT IT'S TIME FOR A LITTLE NAP.
TINK





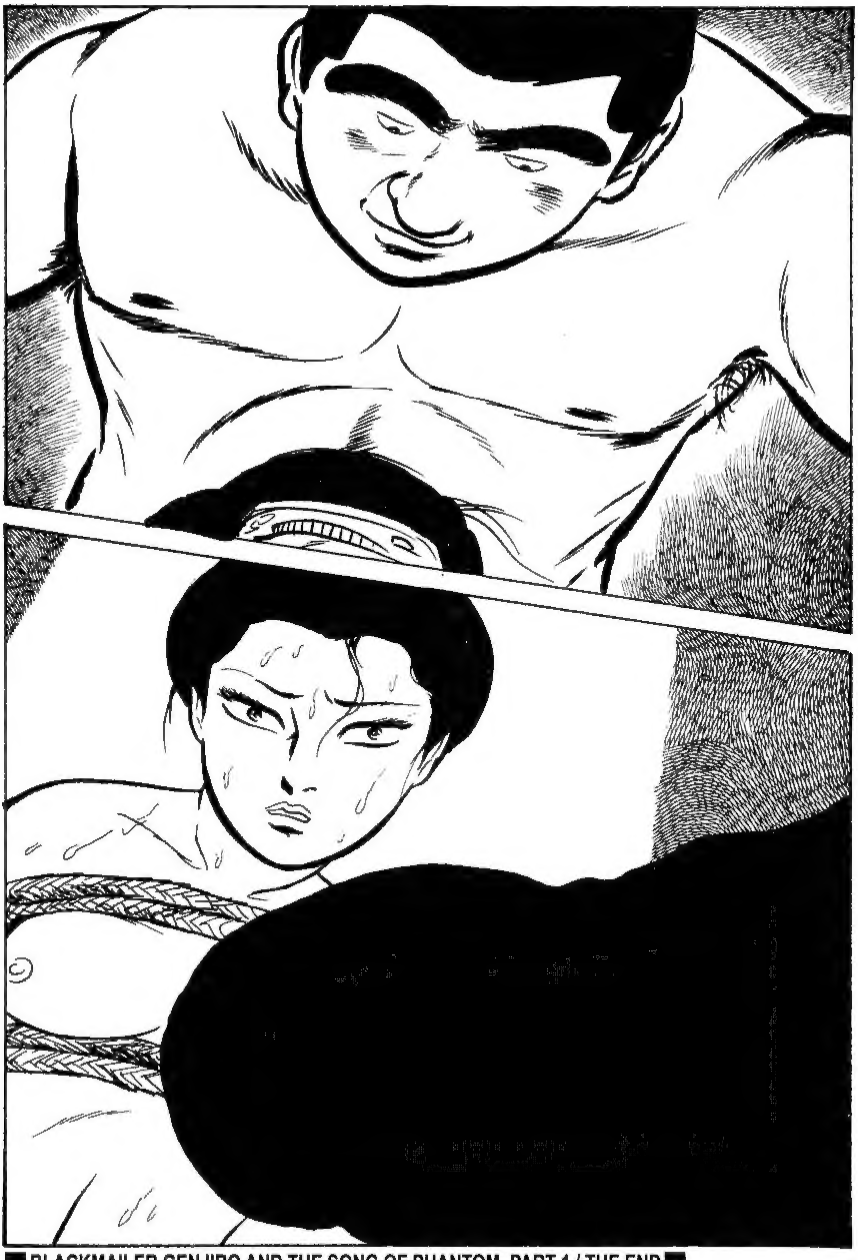
...
HEE HEE HEE. YOU'RE UP, HUH?
YOU KNOW, APPRENTICES NEED TO BE AT THE STORE ONLY WHEN IT'S DARN BUSY. WHEN IT'S NOT, NO ONE CARES WHERE WE GO. IN A WAY, WE'RE WORTHLESS-- NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM A LITTLE BUG. SO I COME HERE TO RELAX EVERY NOW AND THEN.
A STONE DEALER USED TO OWN THIS SHOP BEFORE HE WENT BANKRUPT. NO ONE COMES HERE NOW. IT'S A WRECK, BUT A GREAT HIDING PLACE.

THERE ARE TWO HOUSES BETWEEN THIS PLACE AND OUR SHOP.
HEE HEE HEE. EVEN IF YOU GLOWER AT ME LIKE THAT, THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO. TETSU AIZAWA HIRED YOU TO KILL THE GREAT BLACKMAILER GENJIRO, BUT HE FAILED. NOW, IT'S MY TURN TO GET RID OF BOTH OF YOU.
HEE ふ HEE ふ HEE ふ HEE... ふ!
LEMME SEE. SHOULD I BOIL OR GRILL YOU BEFORE I GOBBLE YOU UP?
ガラガラ

WHY DO YOU BLACKMAIL THE WORKERS?
KRACKK
YOU ARE BEAUTI-FUL.
I BET TETSU AIZAWA WANTS TO KNOW THAT. AND MY IDENTITY, TOO. HEE HEE HEE. THAT'S WHY HE HIRED YOU, RIGHT?
WHAM
KRACK

BOTH SIDES GOTTA GIVE TO MAKE IT FIFTY-FIFTY, THAT'S ONLY RIGHT.
BECAUSE YOU TRIED TO KILL ME, I'VE GOT THE RIGHT TO KILL YOU. THAT'S A FAIR EXCHANGE. NOW, IF YOU WANNA FIND OUT ABOUT ME, WHAT'RE YOU GONNA GIVE ME IN EXCHANGE?
WHAT ABOUT ME TAKING YOUR BODY IN EXCHANGE?
...

TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
AS YOU CAN SEE, MY COCK IS EXCEPTIONALLY BIG. I COULD TEAR YOU APART AND MAYBE EVEN END UP KILLING YOU.
HEE HEE HEE... I BET I CAN'T EVEN GET INSIDE YOU.



■BLACKMAILER GENJIRO AND THE SONG OF PHANTOM, PART 1 / THE END■
■LADY SNOWBLOOD'S DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE / THE END■

bonze
A buddhist monk, especially of China, Japan, or nearby countries.

higan
A merciful prayer (to save mankind). One's earnest/pathetic prayer/wish.

hojicho–religion
During the edo era, Tokugawa instituted a state Buddhist church. As part of a nationwide religious system, each household was obliged to be affiliated with a *danka-dera* (parish temple) and possess a *tera-uke* (certificate to prove the individual did not belong to an illegal sect). At the head of the church (or temple) was the shogun himself with matters controlled by the *jisha-bugyo* (department for temples and shrines). Buddhism simply became a department of state and although the number of actual shrines and temples increased, the authority of them withered.

honorifics
Japan is a class and status society, and proper forms of address are critical. Common markers of respect are the prefixes *o* and *go*, and a wide range of suffixes. Some of the suffixes you will encounter in *Lady Snowblood*:

chan: for children, young women, and close friends
dono: archaic; used for higher-ranked or highly respected figures
san: the most common, used among equals or near-equals
sama: used for superiors
sensei: used for teachers, masters, respected entertainers, and politicians.

kenjutsu
Kenjutsu is the samurai's sword art. It requires the use of blades, especially Japanese blades such as the *katana, wakizashi,* and *no-daichi*. Kenjutsu involves powerful, high-commitment strikes to selected targets in order to kill the opponent.

nanmaida
This verse is an abbreviation of *namu amida butsu*. *Namu amida butsu* is a verse chanted by Buddhist monks.

o-bon
O-bon is a Japanese Buddhist holiday to honor the departed spirits of one's ancestors.

oyabun
The head of a yakuza family. "Oyabun" means father.

ryo
An old monetary unit before "yen" was introduced. When yen was introduced, one ryo was exchanged to one yen.

sen
1 sen is 1/100 of 1 yen.

setsugetsuni
Setsugetsuni is made up of three kanji characters: setstu= snow, getsu = moon, ni = nun.

syura
Demon's realm. A form of hell.

translation
NAOMI KOKUBO
with assistance by JEFF CARLSON

lettering
STUDIO CUTIE

publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

editor
TIM ERVIN

collection designer
JOSHUA ELLIOTT

art director
LIA RIBACCHI

LADY SNOWBLOOD VOL. 2: THE DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE PT. 2

Lady Snowblood © 2004, 2005 by Kazuo Koike and Kazuo Kamimura. Originally published in Japan in 2004 by Koike Shoin Publishing Co., Ltd. English translation rights arranged with Soeisha, Inc. Translation and adaptation, and all other material unless otherwise specified, TM & © 2005 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of the copyright holders. Names, characters, places, and incidents featured in this publication are either the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, institutions, or locales, without satiric intent, is coincidental. Dark Horse Manga™ is a trademark of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Dark Horse Comics® is a trademark of Dark Horse Comics, Inc., registered in various categories and countries. All rights reserved.

Published by Dark Horse Manga, a division of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. in association with Soeisha, Inc.

Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 S.E. Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222

www.darkhorse.com

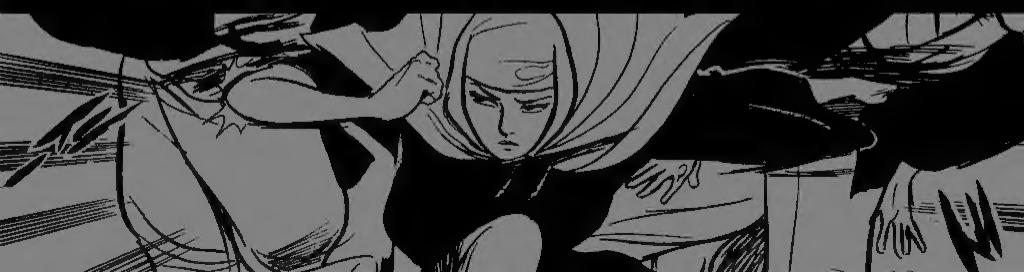
First edition: December 2005

ISBN: 1-59307-443-3

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Canada

To find a comics shop in your area, call the Comic Shop Locator Service toll-free at 1-888-266-4226



GRAPHIC NOVEL/MANGA

THE DEEP-SEATED GRUDGE PT. 2

The path of revenge can have many twisted turns, and Lady Snowblood's is no exception. Born in a prison, a product of her mother's grudge, Yuki is a child of hell. What will she do for revenge? Pose as a nun? Become another woman's lover? Possibly.

In this volume we learn about Yuki's training and youth, see her woo some allies, and embark on the first steps of her angry path. Under the tutelage of a stoic former warrior, the young Yuki begins to understand pain and suffering, qualities she'll one day impart upon her quarry. The band of bandits that at one time raped her mother and killed the little boy who would have been her brother will wish they had never made such a greedy and vicious decision, because the resulting vengeance will at least equal their crimes!

Written by Kazuo Koike of *Lone Wolf & Cub* fame, *Lady Snowblood* is a tale of a woman's path in hell.

LADY SNOW BLOOD

PRESENTED BY KAZUO KOIKE & KAZUO KAMIMURA

修羅雪姫

VOL 2

www.darkhorse.com

DARK HORSE MANGA